

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Russia's New Trade Policy

NOT without reason did Mr. Molotov emphasise at yesterday's meeting of the four power foreign ministers the desirability of expanding trade between Russia, China and the Western world. Since Stalin's death, a reorientation of the commercial policy of Soviet Russia has been in progress, one sign of which is a more forthcoming attitude to foreign trade on the part of the Russian authorities. New trading arrangements have been made with countries in all parts of the world, and Russia has become a large buyer of certain commodities. Petroleum and its products, which have hardly figured in Russian exports since before the Second World War, have now come to occupy a prominent place in the trade and barter agreements negotiated by the Soviet Government. And more recently foreign sales of gold have occurred on a very large scale, shipments to Western Europe during the last quarter of 1953 being estimated at some \$35 million.

SINCE 1945, a large part of the Russian economic effort is known to have been concentrated on the expansion of heavy industries and rearmament. Whether because rearmament is considered to have been carried far enough, or because popular demands have become uncomfortably insistent, definite promises have been made of better living standards, which in Russia today means, broadly, a larger supply and a greater variety of foodstuffs in the towns, and more consumer goods, particularly in agricultural areas. The emphasis in manufacturing is being transferred from heavy to light industries, and a larger volume of consumer goods, and certain foodstuffs is being imported. Although it may be accepted that a serious attempt is being made to adjust Russian industry in the direction of larger production of consumer goods, there is plenty of scope for conjecture as to where the new policy will lead.

CURRENT imports of consumer goods may primarily be designed to fill an interregnum, while the change in the country's productive capacity is taking place, but there are some indications to the contrary. One of these is the number of new oil tankers which the USSR is at present poorly supplied, under construction for Russia in various European countries. This suggests larger imports from other countries are contemplated, but there is nothing to indicate the size of the expansion. If the estimate that at present only one per cent of internal consumption in the USSR is met by imports from outside Eastern Europe is anywhere near correct, the impact of expansion of Russian foreign trade could be highly important. It was Russian sales of gold on the world's "unofficial" markets which finally eliminated the gold premium, and even more recently the platinum market of New York was shaken by reports of exceptionally large Russian offers of the metal. In one of the smaller markets for petroleum products, a British oil company was recently compelled to suspend imports because the market had been filled by Russian oil received under a mutual trade agreement. In spite of ideological differences, wide Russian commercial exchanges are generally held to be desirable, but trade expansion on any large scale would probably cause considerable disturbance to the world's markets.

'WEDGE-DRIVING' TACTICS

BY MOLOTOV

Playing On The Weak Chink In The Western Armour

Berlin, Jan. 27.

Mr Vyacheslav Molotov today began driving the wedge which he hopes will divide the Western powers in their attitude to a conference with China.

He suggested that the five-power conference he has proposed for the spring would have attractions for all three Western nations, laying stress on the role the meeting could play in settling the problem of Indo-China, where France is anxious to end her bitter struggle against the Communist rebels.

Indo-China is one of the chinks in the Western armour. The position of M. Georges Bidault, the French Foreign Minister, is such that it would be extremely difficult for him to face the National Assembly in Paris after rejecting an apparently reasonable proposal for consideration of Indo-China by the five nations.

The opposite is true for Mr John Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State, if the conference has to discuss "international tension" in addition to Asiatic questions, as Mr Molotov insists. The Washington Administration is firmly committed to Congress to rejecting the five-power conference proposal in the terms proposed.

Mr Anthony Eden, whose Government is the only one which has recognised the Peking Government, stands somewhere between these two positions, but nearer the American. In the interests of maintaining Western solidarity, he must, therefore, be guided by the extent to which Mr Dulles is prepared to help M. Bidault.

Today, in what Mr Molotov clearly intended to be only the preliminary discussion of the proposal, the Western powers were able to resist with a firm and common argument. They pointed out that there was already machinery through which the problems raised by Mr Molotov could be solved. And the projected Korean political conference which, they said, Communist obstructionism was preventing, was the first body in which Communist China could prove its sincerity in wishing to settle outstanding questions.

According to the Russian spokesman, Mr Molotov told the Western Ministers he was confident the conference could reach agreement on his proposal after further discussion.

MUST WEAKEN

If that discussion leads to concessions by Mr Molotov on the agenda he proposes for the five-power meeting, perhaps eliminating those subjects the West finds most objectionable, it is bound to weaken the Western stand.

Earlier, the Western Ministers tried to pin down Mr Vyacheslav Molotov, to discussion of European problems while the Soviet Minister spoke at length on the Far East and international tension.

The Western Ministers again rejected Mr Molotov's appeal for a five-power conference with Communist China.

Mr Eden who was in the chair, suggested after the other Ministers had spoken, that as there had been a full round of discussion on the first item of the three-point agenda, introduced by Mr Molotov, the Ministers might like time to consider Mr Molotov's speech.

Mr Eden said he thought it best for the conference to deal with individual problems.

Mr Molotov said it would seem that the three Western powers all had some use for a five-power conference which

could play a mediating role in the interests of them all.

Mr Dulles had shown an interest in a five-power meeting on Korea and Indo-China. M. Bidault had shown an interest in the subject of lessening international tension, and had spoken on Asian problems, to it would injure him too.

Mr Eden had put forward no objections which could not be overcome.

From all this, Mr Molotov concluded, each of the four powers would further their interest by working out the terms of a five-power conference.

Mr Molotov spoke at length on the subject of trade, saying there was a market of 800,000,000 people in the Soviet Union, China and the Peoples Democracies in which great economic progress had been achieved in spite of the abnormal conditions to which their foreign trade had been subjected.

What has been built to cut off the trade of these countries, this was no way to case tension, Mr Molotov was quoted as saying.

QUOTES CHARTER

Molotov quoted the Charter of the United Nations and the 1945 Potsdam agreement in support of his plea for a five-power conference.

Communist China could not be excluded from the councils of the world. Not only was she one of the great powers, but she was also the only Asian power.

Mr Molotov said that the weight of China's 500,000,000 should be added to the 450,000,000 represented by the four powers at the conference table.

He claimed that Communist China was not responsible for blocking the progress of a Panmunjon discussion on a Korean political conference.

The American spokesman, commenting on Mr Molotov's speech, said it represented no change from the original proposal yesterday for a five power conference, though Mr Molotov had elaborated it.

Molotov Wines & Dines With Eden

Berlin, Jan. 27.

Russian Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov made his first social visit to West Berlin tonight to dine with Mr Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary.

Host at the dinner was Sir Frederick Hoyer Millar, British High Commissioner in Germany, at whose Berlin residence Mr Eden is staying.

The Russians were asked what they would like to eat—normal diplomatic procedure—and they waved aside offers of caviar for "a typical English meal."

German wines were served with each course.

Mr Molotov was accompanied by Mr Andrei Gromyko, a Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Jacob Malik, Ambassador to London, and Mr V. S. Semakovsky.

High Commissioner in Germany. He also took with him an interpreter because he only speaks Russian, a language that Mr Eden does not know.

Since Madame Molotov is not in Berlin with her husband, tonight's dinner was confined to men. Dress was informal.

Fourteen people sat down round the solid oak dining room table of the High Commissioner's home.

"It contained apparently every possible thing that anybody could desire—reduction of tension, armaments, trade, improvement of international relations and so on."

The spokesman added: "If we were to accept such a proposal we would, in fact, be accepting a position rejected at San Francisco when the Charter of the United Nations was drawn up—that the affairs of the world are best entrusted to three, four or five big powers."

"Such a conference would have to be in permanent session. It would rival the United Nations."

"It seems that Mr Molotov is proposing another United Nations with the membership confined to five."

The spokesman said Mr Dulles would be the first speaker tomorrow with Mr Molotov in the chair. He expected more would be said on the same item on the agenda, but he hoped the conference would get on to point two—Germany and European security—tomorrow.

SEVERAL OBJECTIONS The British spokesman was asked to comment on Mr Molotov's statement that Mr Eden had raised no objection to a five-power conference which could not be overcome.

The spokesman replied that in his speech Mr Eden had raised a number of objections. "I would suggest that you now ask Mr Molotov to show us how they can be overcome," the spokesman said.

Answering another question, the spokesman said he thought that discussion of item one would continue on Thursday, pointing out that Mr Molotov would be in the chair.

Mr Molotov had made no suggestions that discussions of items two and three—Germany and Austria—would depend upon the conference's reaching agreement on item one.

The Soviet spokesman, at an East Berlin press conference, quoted Mr Molotov as saying at the end of his speech that he was sure a conference of the five Foreign Ministers could play a great mediating role in solving questions of interest to the Foreign Ministers.

FOREIGN TRADE In the passage referring to foreign trade, the Russian spokesman quoted Mr Molotov as saying a French trade delegation was at that moment in Moscow and a British delegation had arrived.

The Soviet Union also traded with India and would welcome trade with any country.

Mr Molotov said that the first group of questions of which he had spoken—military questions and the disarmament problem—could be discussed at a five-power conference.

He had dealt with political questions raised by his three colleagues in his speech today.

Mr Molotov said that Mr Dulles, in saying that the five great powers had no right to decide the fate of smaller countries, was in fact referring to the United States and Russia.

(Continued on back page, Col. 2)

Atom Sub Launched



Sterling Payments Agreement

London, Jan. 27.

Britain and Japan are expected to sign a new sterling payments agreement in London on Friday afternoon, a usually reliable source said here tonight.

The signing of the agreement will follow seven weeks of private discussions here between British and Japanese delegates on the pattern of trade during 1954 between Japan and Britain, banker of the sterling area.

Mr Shunichi Matsumoto, Japan's Ambassador to Britain, will sign the new agreement on behalf of his country, while Mr Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will sign for Britain.

Mr Lloyd will be signing in place of Mr Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, who is now attending the Foreign Ministers' conference in Berlin. The Anglo-Japanese payments talks began here on December 3 and are mainly concerned with reviewing the 1951 sterling payments agreement between the two countries.

JAPANESE PROPOSAL

The 1951 pact, after three extensions, is now due to expire at the end of this month.

The Japanese delegation was understood to have suggested earlier in the talks that 1954 trade between Britain and Japan should be estimated at about £210,000,000 each way.

It was not known here tonight what overall trading estimate has been agreed on. Some officials of both sides held a meeting at the Treasury today and were believed to have put finishing touches to the new agreement.

The Japanese delegation to the conference here is led by Mr Koichiro Asano, retiring Minister in London.

He will shortly fly to Tokyo to become Director of the Overseas Trade Section of the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

Mr Asano will be exchanging posts with Mr T. Oda, who is expected here next month—China Mail Special.

Soviet Jet Fighter Crashes

Helsinki, Jan. 27.

A Soviet jet fighter crashed in Finnish territory during the night of Monday and Tuesday, it was learned here tonight.

The plane crashed twenty kilometres inside the Finnish side of the border in the Lake Saima region.

The pilot, who escaped by parachute, was at present in the custody of the Finnish police.



Must Take His Punishment

Middlesbrough, Jan. 27.

British Justice, which softened long enough to let a young merchant seaman marry the Arab slave girl he smuggled into the country, hardened again today and packed the seaman off to prison.

The Middlesbrough Quarter Sessions Court denied seaman Tommy Flynn's appeal against a three-month sentence for helping his 17-year-old bride, Kawahkib, enter the country illegally. But the Court gave sentence against Kawahkib, telling her: "I am satisfied you did not know English law."

Kawahkib sobbed bitterly, however, as Flynn was led off to prison.

"I want to go to prison with Tommy," she cried. "I do not want to be parted with him."

But Kawahkib, whom Flynn spirited out of a coffee house in Basrah last autumn and smuggled to England, dressed as a boy, will have to stay with Flynn's relatives until he has served his sentence—United Press.

West Europe In Winter's Grip

London, Jan. 27.

Winter gripped the whole of West Europe today as sub-zero temperatures took to northern ports and hampered road and rail traffic.

Reports from European cities told of rail travellers stranded for a week; bus drivers on icy roads and shipping vessels in ice-bound seas.

H-Bomb Unable To Destroy The Earth

London, Jan. 28.

Professor Robert Frisch, pioneer British atomic scientist, said in a lecture here last night that if a hydrogen bomb were exploded near a large amount of cobalt (a metallic mineral), deadly particles might be spread round the world.

"But there would be no purpose in that because it would affect friend and foe alike," he added.

The Vienna-born professor, now a naturalised Briton, has worked on atomic research in several countries, including the original Los Alamos project in the United States.

He was head of the Nuclear Physics Department at Harwell, Britain's atomic research centre, in 1948 and is now Jacksonian Professor of Natural Philosophy at Cambridge University.

Lecturing on "atomic weapons," he said he had not worked recently on atomic bombs, but he thought a hydrogen bomb was not capable of destroying the earth.

It was 1,000 times more powerful than an atomic bomb—and could wreak severe damage within a 20-mile radius—but it could not touch off an earth-destroying chain reaction, he said.

No man-made power—not even the hydrogen bomb—was capable of producing sufficient heat to cause fusion of basic substances such as the earth, Professor Frisch declared.

In comparison to natural releases of energy, even atomic and hydrogen bombs were quite small.

"The energy which a thunderstorm releases is about the same as that of an atom bomb, and an earthquake or a hurricane is a billion times greater," he declared.

The great advantage of a hydrogen bomb was its safety—it would never go off unless detonated by an atomic bomb.—Reuter.

Callous Driver

Brussels, Jan. 27.

A young Brussels driver, who killed a woman pedestrian and seriously injured three passengers, jumped out of his car after the accident and sauntered off for a drink, police reported here.

The police said the man, Marius Coppin, disappeared after drinking a glass of mineral water in a cafe and had not yet been found.

They alleged that the accident occurred when the car was being driven at over 60 miles an hour through the centre of Brussels.—Reuter.

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Another Obstacle To German Unity

WEST WANTS THE ODER-NEISSE

Berlin, Jan 27.

The greatest single obstacle to East-West agreement on Germany will be the disposition of the 40,000 square miles of former German territory east of the Oder-Neisse line given to Poland in 1945 as compensation for the eastern provinces Russia wrested from her six years earlier, observers here believe.

Russia, Communist Poland and the Soviet puppet East German Government insist the Oder-Neisse line is a "permanent frontier of peace," and their position is supported by a rather sizable group of French politicians.

However, the West German Government, and the Governments of France, Britain and the United States hold that the Oder-Neisse line was only a temporary administrative arrangement. The permanent German-Polish demarcation line, these four Governments insist, will be drawn as part of the peace treaty settlement with a re-united Germany.

The Western case is based on the final, agreed text of the Potsdam Agreement, signed in Berlin by Stalin, Truman and Acheson on August 2, 1945.

Big Three discussion of the German-Polish frontier question began at the Potsdam conference of 1945. Stalin said he had no intention of returning to Poland the territories Russia had wrested from her in the 1939 Soviet-Nazi squeeze play on that nation.

He suggested that the Poles be compensated by advancing their western frontier 100 miles west of its location before the 1939 German attack. Winston Churchill said he had no objection to Poland moving as far west as the Oder River. He and Stalin crunched over some maps on which each pencilled his ideas of the future western Polish frontier, and soon agreed on what Sir Winston felt was a "fair deal."

But the chief difference was this: that Sir Winston wanted those former German territories given to a democratic Poland, while Stalin wanted them given to a Communist Poland. Stalin won.

Stalin also won on another key point. At Potsdam, Roosevelt had suggested that if a transfer of the German population from the Oder-Neisse territories was necessary, it should be done on a voluntary basis, and Stalin approved this idea.

But at Potsdam two and a half years later, the Big Three scrapped the "voluntary" transfer idea, and decided that all Germans should be expelled.

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No Successor Found For Guillaume In French Morocco

Paris, Jan. 27.

Premier Joseph Laniel conferred today with President Rene Coty on Franco-Spanish tensions over Morocco but it was reported that no decision was reached on a replacement for General Augustin Guillaume, France's Resident-General in the protectorate.

Government sources said it had been agreed that any dealings with Madrid following last week's repudiation of the reigning Sultan's authority by Spanish Zone notables would be kept within normal diplomatic channels. It still awaits Spain's reply to a note protesting Moroccan developments.

M. Coty faced with his first major trouble in office, was said to express hopes that the incident can be played down as much as possible. France wanted to avoid a new crisis in Morocco while its attention was on the Berlin talks, the European Army and pressing economic issues.

General Guillaume's replacement was the object of discussion between political groups and within the Government.

The "NEW LOOK" The aim is to find a successor who can rally the widest support, at home and simultaneously start giving Morocco the political and social "new look" promised last Summer but never seriously applied yet.

No official statement has yet been made about Gen. Guillaume's replacement. But ever since side criticism among middle-road and Liberal parties started last Summer over his brusque act in deposing the nationalist Sultan, it has been generally recognized on the official level that he was on the way out.

His replacement was delayed so it would not be seized upon as a victory by the Moroccan nationalists, who accuse him of representing an out-dated colonialism and mounting a Police terrorism in the protectorate.

Last week's new crisis brought the issue to the front again.—United Press.

Randall To Be Special Adviser

Washington, Jan. 27.

President Eisenhower said at his Press conference today that Clarence Randall, the American businessman, who presided over the preparation of an important report by the United States External Policy Commission, would remain at the White House as a special adviser.

Mr. Eisenhower indicated that the Randall report was sent for analysis to all American government agencies and would serve as a basis for a recommendation on the external economic policy which the White House will send to Congress.—France Press.

Japs Oppose US Bands

Tokyo Jan. 27.

Japanese musicians have decided to oppose imported American bands and singers.

"We Japanese musicians of jazz and Latin-American music, due to the mere cultural ground of our technical inferiority, have been massacred in everyday life by foreign musicians coming over from abroad to work here, whose outrageous wages we can stand no longer," they stated.

"To mitigate economic damage we have risen in the name of Japan Federation of Musicians against their harshness and inhumanity." — China Mail Special.

British Reply To India On UN Talks On Korea

London, Jan. 27.

Well-informed sources said tonight the British reply to the Indian request for convening the United Nations General Assembly to discuss the Korean issue would be sent to Sir Gladwyn Jebb, British delegate at the United Nations, tonight.

These sources said that the reply would be handed over to the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld. It would be made public tomorrow night.

It was understood that Britain would not reject the Indian request but would propose to adjourn the United Nations meeting to a later date. The setting of the date would depend upon developments in Panmunjom.

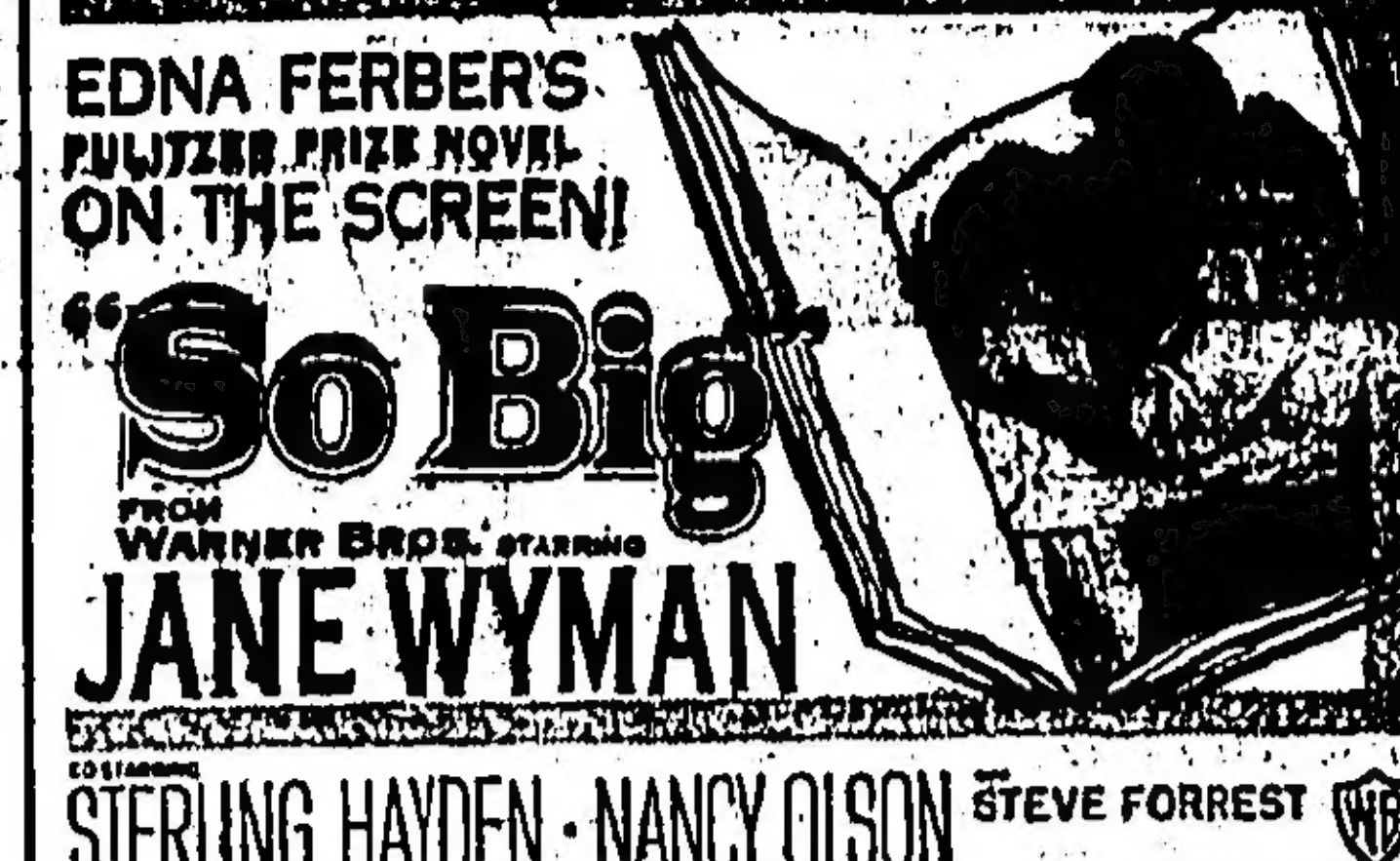
The Yugoslav Government has agreed to the Indian proposal to convene a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on February 9. Reputer reported from Belgrade.

Positive replies from 31 countries are needed to ensure the convening of the session. The score is now 18 for and three countries against the meeting.

The deadline for replies is January 29.—France Press and Reuter.

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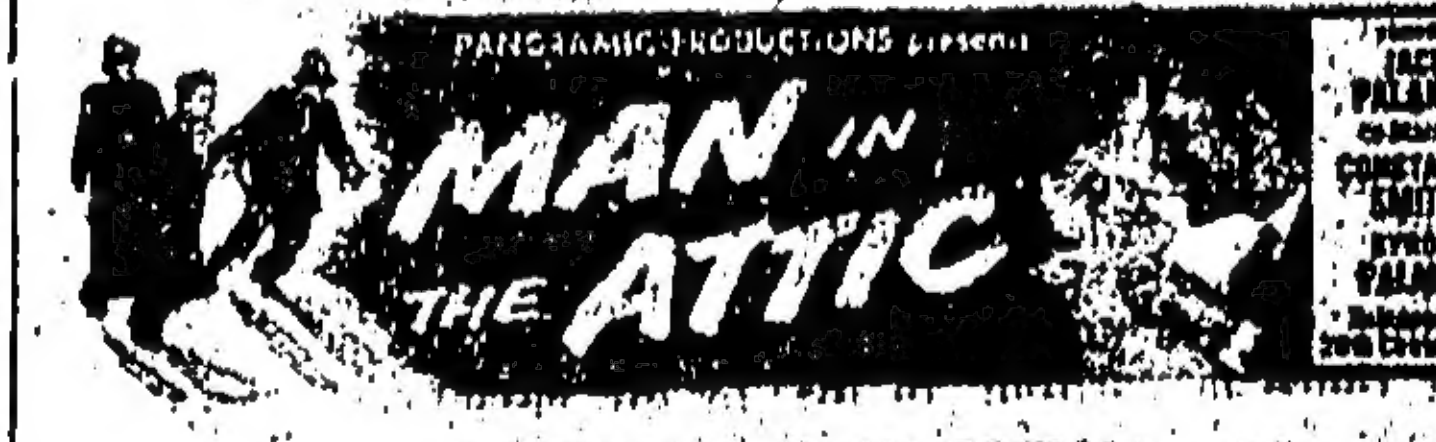


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MORE U.S. AID EXPECTED FOR INDO-CHINA

B-26 Light Bombers But No Troops

Washington, Jan. 27.

America is expected to send more B-26 light bombers to Indo-China to help French Union forces, according to reliable sources. The aircraft would require American civilian maintenance personnel at bases well behind the front.

A well-known newspaper columnist said there was no truth in the report that the French had asked the U.S. Government to send troops to Indo-China.

The columnist said the "main-tenance personnel" would be air mechanics from the United States Air Force in the Far East. The French Embassy said the French Government had made no request for United States troops.

Sources said it had been known for a long time that the French Air Force in Indo-China was short of maintenance personnel and the further fact that it had very few personnel who

know anything about servicing United States planes. They recalled that when several C-119 planes—light bombers—were sent to Indo-China at the time of the first Vietnamese offensive against Laos that United States civilian personnel had to accompany the planes to service them.

MORE NEEDED

They said that due to the increased Vietnamese offensives in Indo-China such as against Dien Bien Phu, Seno, Thakek and other areas the French Union forces in Indo-China urgently needed more light bomber planes, notably the B-26 type and some were understood to have recently arrived there as a result of an urgent request by the French Command in Indo-China.

The sources understood that most United States B-26s were likely to be sent and some more transportation planes might also be sent.

They explained that more United States civilian mechanics were required as the need for more planes became evident and it was understood that they were supplied through the United States Military Mission in Indo-China.

They stressed that these mechanics were civilians and that they service the planes at the main service depots which were nowhere near the front.

WILD MUSHROOMS

Authorities point out the air-aid and elusive struggle in Indo-China. The French Union forces are steadily killing and capturing thousands of the Communist-led Vietnamese—but new rebels seem to spring up as fast as wild mushrooms, according to reports from Hanoi. Their manpower appears to be inexhaustible. Whenever and wherever the French troops knock a battalion or division out of action, a replacement shows up in a matter of days or weeks.

In this eight-year-long war without battle-lines, fought in dense jungles, along mountain trails and in the watery rice-fields of the vast Red River delta, neither the French nor the Vietnamese have ever scored a decisive victory.

The flow of blood goes on. There is no end in sight. But the French are hoping that within the next two years they might knock out the French-led striking power of Ho Chi-minh's armies.

But that appears to be an increasingly difficult goal to attain.

For whenever and wherever the Vietnamese suffer heavy losses in fighting with the French soldiers, they quickly make them up by daring night raids into heavily populated villages.

BRIEF TRAINING

There, they seize all able-bodied young Vietnamese and impress them into the Vietnamese army after brief training in how to shoot and kill.

Thus, the quality of Ho Chi-minh's fighting forces may be decreasing, but the numerical element seems to be unaffected. The French say Ho Chi-minh has eight divisions, well-equipped and well-trained by Red China, and advised by 10,000 Chinese military experts and technicians on how to better war against the French Union forces. Overall, the Vietnamese fighting men are estimated to total 400,000.

This figure includes the top regulars, the regional, or provincial units, and the guerrilla fighters.

How fast the Vietnamese can assemble fresh strength is emphasized by what goes on in the Red River delta of Northern Indo-China—the key French Union defence bastion against the sweep of Communism into Southeast Asia.

The French never let up a single day in pushing the Vietnamese mop-up against the Vietminh, the 400-mile defence perimeter, embracing the cities of Hanoi and Haiphong, and one of the biggest ricebowls in all of Asia.

TRYING FOR 8 YEARS

They've been trying for nearly eight years to make the delta secure. But, invariably, as fast as they mop up hundreds or thousands of Vietnamese, the rebels spring up in new strength in a matter of days or weeks, at the most.

One year ago, the French estimated there were 50,000 Vietnamese roaming about inside the delta.

Today, despite all the killings, woundings and capturing of the Vietnamese, there are an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 inside the delta.

This poses a constant security problem for the French and puts a damper on long-range plans for moving strong forces outside the delta and attacking Ho Chi-minh's armies in their own backyard.

The French would find it highly risky to send out powerful striking forces from the delta. For that could open the way for big-scale plundering, sabotaging and attack by Vietnamese within the delta, and possibly aided by more forces moving in from the outside.

In this strange and bitter war, the French never have been able to corner enough Vietnamese in one spot to score a victory that might have a decisive effect towards winning the war.

There appears to be no immediate prospect of getting powerful Vietnamese forces into a stand-up, knockdown fight for the Vietnamese prefer to hit and run. They always attack at night, and usually with vastly superior numerical forces.

RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE

What they fight with is relatively primitive compared to the modern, powerful weapons of war supplied to the French Union forces by the United States.

But, despite the marked contrast in arms, the Vietnamese, by their sudden raids, by attacking with overwhelming numbers, and fighting in terrain suited for guerrilla warfare, have overrun vast areas of the key Indo-Chinese state of Vietnam. Today, they occupied most of the territory of Vietnam.

But, even though they have 70,000 fighting men in the delta—and eight divisions that could step in from the outside—they have never seriously threatened key French Union positions ringed by more than 1,200 steel and reinforced concrete fortifications.

The French figure that even though the Vietnamese gobble up vast areas of mountainous territory in Northern and Central Indo-China, they're still getting nowhere towards winning the war unless they could take the delta.

That, say the French, will never happen. For they are convinced that they could count on any active Vietnamese unit upon the delta, where the terrain is suited for the effective use of mobile artillery and tanks—American-made tanks and American-made artillery.

Two Colourful Visitors From Bhutan



His Highness, the Maharaja of Bhutan and his young wife the Maharani are greeted by Indian Prime Minister Pandit Nehru as they arrive at New Delhi on an official visit.

Western Germany Will Be Allowed To Have A "Home Guard" Under E.D.C.

Brussels, Jan. 27.

A Night With The Bullfrogs

Brisbane, Jan. 27. Bullfrogs held a greater interest for six-year-old Allan Noel Harsum than the fact that he was lost and that 400 men were searching the wild D'Agular ranges near here for him.

The boy was found 50 hours later crouched under a bush scratched from head to toe and hungry and thirsty. But apart from that he was none the worse for his experience. Since he was missed from his aunt's home at Mount Mee, Allan had wandered hatless and shoeless for more than four and a half miles. He spent most of his time playing with bullfrogs.—China Mail Special.

The Belgian Defence Minister, Major-General Eugene De Green, today said Western Germany would be allowed under the European Defence treaty to build a Home Guard "equal to Belgium's forces of the interior." In addition to Germany's 12-divisions contribution to the European Army.

General De Green, who was addressing a joint meeting behind closed doors of the Senate's Defence and Foreign Affairs Committees, said the EDC, governing bodies and national parliaments should be able to control the force because the latter will be budgeted for under the overall EDC budget, in which national parliaments will have their say.

The Belgian interior forces, not to be integrated in the proposed European Army, comprise a Home Guard of 60 to 70,000 men plus an anti-aircraft territorial guard of some 40,000 men building some 40 artillery battalions armed with 2,000 anti-aircraft guns and a six-battalion watch.

The Senate's Committee decided to speed up their discussion of the EDC Bill allowing the public to debate in the Senate, to begin round about February 15. They would meet the Government desire for an early vote, on the Bill, dissolution of Parliament and a general election on April 4, as suggested by the Government.

The Government Bill for EDC ratification was passed with a comfortable majority in the Lower House on November 20.—Reuter.

Israel's Move To Get Back Seized Passengers

Montreal, Jan. 27.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation was asked today to help obtain the release of three Israeli citizens, including two women, who were seized by the Police when a British plane made an emergency landing in Baghdad on January 3.

Mr. Michael S. Conay, Israel's Minister to Canada, made the request in a letter to Dr. Edward Weir, President of ICAO, written on instructions from his Government. He said that a parallel request had been made to the United Nations.

Mr. Conay said that the plane was forced to land in Iraq on a flight from Cyprus to Teheran, Iran.—United Press.

Iran Orders Expulsion Of 2 French Journalists

Teheran, Jan. 27.

Police today told Gaston Fournier, Agence France Presse correspondent in Teheran for two years, that he and his wife, Eva, who represents the French newspaper, Le Monde, would be expelled from Persia.

A French Embassy official said tonight the French Ambassador, M. Francois Coulet, had obtained an extension of the 48 hours expulsion order on the grounds of M. Fournier's ill health—an attack of bronchitis.

Earlier, the Ambassador had called on the Persian Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdolkarim Entezam, to discuss the case.

The Embassy spokesman said the Ambassador was awaiting instructions before seeking a withdrawal of the order or a further extension.

Persian officials accused M. Fournier of spying that people had been killed in an election clash between police and demonstrators in Abadan.

This is the first expulsion of a foreign correspondent since the Zahedi Government took over last August.—Reuter.

Wellington, New Zealand, Jan. 27.

The South Island Publicity Association discovered one reason why fewer tourists visit the south of New Zealand.

Under the headline "It sounds incredible" the association's journal angrily discussed the "classic case of a map published overseas... with no indication of the South Island other in the design or letter press."

Many tourists before coming to New Zealand did not know the South Island existed, it said.—China Mail Special.

33 UK Businessmen In Moscow For Trade Talks

Moscow, Jan. 27.

A group of 33 British businessmen arrived here tonight in two planes from Helsinki to begin a series of separate trade talks with the Russians. It was the biggest trade group believed ever to have visited the Soviet Union.

A big group of Soviet trade officials travelled out to Untukovo airport, 30 kilometres (nearly 20 miles) from the city, to meet them.

Mr J. B. Scott, sales director of Crompton Parkinson Limited, manufacturing electrical engineers in London, is leader of the privately-sponsored group. He said the prospects for increased British trade with the Soviet Union were "hopeful."

President of the Soviet Chamber of Trade, Mikhail Nestorov, and 12 Chamber of Trade and Ministry of Foreign Trade officials met the British group.

It was the sort of greeting very distinguished visitors receive in Moscow.

The businessmen travelled as a group because this was the easiest method, but said they would now split up to explore the possibilities "in their respective fields of trade."

The group represents British's major industries, including shipbuilding, motor cars, electrical equipment, machine tools, diesel engines, cables, crane-handling equipment, wood-working machinery, packaging machinery and food machinery.

Mr Scott said: "We are here at the invitation of the Soviet Chamber of Trade for talks on various fields. Some of us are already working on contracts under negative licence with the Russians, while others will explore the possibilities of trade."

STAY TWO WEEKS

"We have paid our own fares and expenses and though we have come together, we will now go our separate ways." Mr Scott said the group represented 28 British companies and would stay about two weeks.

Several of the businessmen were working on enquiries they had received from the Russians, while others had come for a "look see."

The arrival of tonight's British businessmen new to Moscow to 12. The others include 12 textile machine makers from Yorkshire and Lancashire, a group of four from a Lewesport shipbuilding company, two London oil merchants and a London bookmaker.

The possibility of Britain's increasing her trade with the Soviet Union has recently been given big prominence in the Soviet press, where Soviet analysts have stressed that British businessmen are turning in the direction of the Soviet Union and the people's democratic states because they fear an American economic recession.—Reuter.

Thimayya Rejects US Request For 17 Chinese POWs

London, Jan. 27.

The Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission today rejected an American request that the 17 Chinese and Korean prisoners of war, alleged to have committed murder, be released and repatriated, the New China (Communist) News Agency reported.

General Thimayya, Indian Chairman of the Commission, said in a letter to the United States Command that such a release would amount to a "total denial of justice" the Agency stated in a despatch from Kaesong, in the Korean demilitarized zone.

The despatch said General Thimayya had asked the American Command to send its witnesses and defence counsels so that the trial could be continued.—Reuter.

An End To Greedy Pigs In Denmark

Copenhagen, Jan. 27.

The Høding Bacon Factory, biggest in Denmark, reached the conclusion after a series of careful experiments that pigs must not eat like pigs.

It is a waste of good food and also the quality of the bacon suffers.

The Høding experimenters, who regard pigs as automated bacon factories, found that greedy ones, allowed to eat their fill, reached the regulation weight for execution (60 kilograms or 132 pounds) ten days sooner than pigs with rationed diet. But they ate 10 kilograms (22 pounds) more fodder.

Also 50 per cent of the rationed pigs produced first quality bacon but only 60 per cent of the greedy pigs produced meat of this class.

In hard cash a rationed pig of 60 kilograms is worth 40 to 50 kroner (£2 to £2 and 10 shillings sterling) more than a greedy pig.—China Mail Special.

U.S. Army Will Review Dickenson Case

Washington, Jan. 27.

President Dwight Eisenhower told his press conference today the American military authorities would examine with humanity the case of Corporal Edmund Dickenson who, after refusing repatriation, changed his mind and decided to return to the United States.

The President said he was concerned when he learned that Dickenson would be court-martialed and that he immediately telephoned Defence Secretary Charles Wilson about this subject.

Mr. Eisenhower said any procedure before an American military court was preceded by a careful investigation and that this was at present the case for Corporal Dickenson.

Generally, he said, indulgence should be given to American soldiers who "confessed" by force that they had participated in bacteriological warfare and in the case of the 21 American prisoners who refused to the very end to rejoin the United Nations camp, the President spoke of the circumstances in which these men were placed.

He added that one could not be sure of what one would have done in their place.—France-Press.

Difference Between Ike's Policy And The New Deal

Washington, Jan. 27.

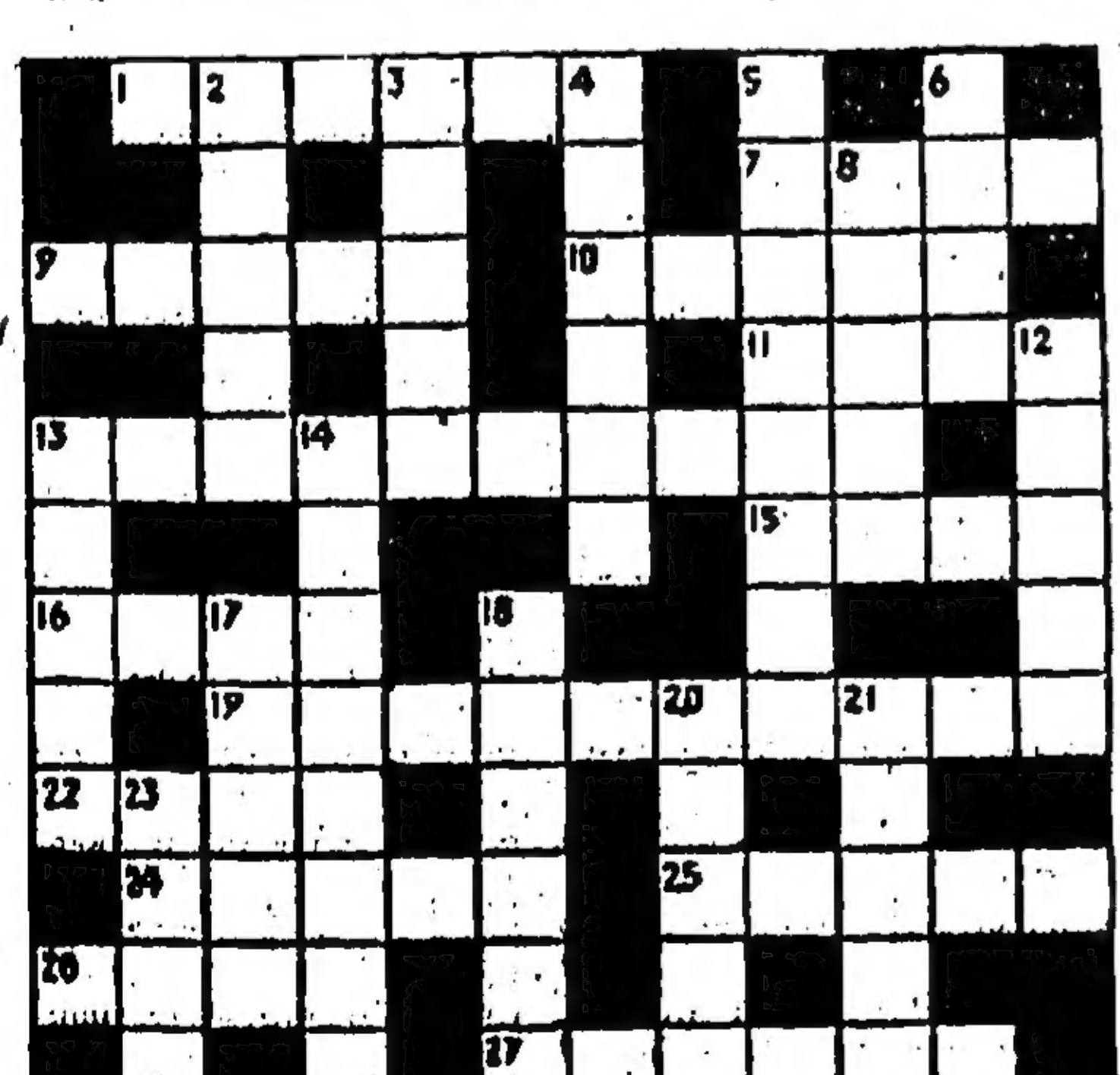
President Eisenhower said today the policy of reducing expenses contained in the draft budget recently submitted to Congress mirrored the fundamental difference between the political philosophy of his administration and that known as the New Deal under the previous Democratic Administration.

He was answering criticism that the policy of the Eisenhower Administration was but a continuation of the New Deal, and said that the New Deal was characterized by a constant increase of public debate while the Republican Administration was trying to reduce government expenses.

He emphasized that he was in no way "reversing" the New Deal, but that he had done since 1953 had been "fundamental to the United States."

Mr. Eisenhower stressed the principle that "the relationship between individuals and the government is a two-way street" and that the American economic problem is not a government problem, but a national problem.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS.**
1 Utter dismay (6).
7 Fail to include (4).
9 Elude (5).
10 Muddle (6).
11 Walk (4).
13 Spotted (10).
15 Operative song (4).
16 Fadden (4).
18 Determination (10).
22 Potentate (4).
23 Dwell (6).
24 Show displeasure (4).
27 Contain for soup (6).
- DOWN.**
2 Drug (5).
3 Souvenir (5).
4 Disarrange (6).
5 True (8).
6 Suck (4).
8 Measuring device (6).
12 Unadorned (5).
13 Outcome (5).
14 Star (8).
17 Copies (5).
18 Above-board (6).
20 Express (6).
21 Fire burning on hearth (5).
23 Principal (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 1. Smash; 2. Overdo; 3. Edits; 4. Chic; 5. Spotted; 6. Flute; 7. Arise; 8. Arise; 9. Edits; 10. Chic; 11. Spotted; 12. Flute; 13. Arise; 14. Arise; 15. Edits; 16. Chic; 17. Spotted; 18. Flute; 19. Arise; 20. Arise; 21. Edits; 22. Chic; 23. Spotted; 24. Flute; 25. Arise; 26. Arise; 27. Edits.

★ DON IDDON'S DIARY ★

Friendship And Thanks

The Best Payment

New York, Tuesday. **SIR HARRY BRITAIN**, who has done as much as anyone to keep the United Kingdom and the United States good friends, called on me the other day.

"Don't worry 'oo much about Anglo-American relations," he said. "The main stream flows on smoothly. There may be a few ripples, even rapid, but they don't affect the main stream."

Sir Harry, who is 80, founded the "Purims" Club, and his list of achievements on both sides of the Atlantic occupies 9th place in Who's Who, so he should know what he is talking about.

I have received many letters from Anglo-American relations from readers since I wrote about anti-American feeling and mentioned that the United States had sent 40,000,000,000 dollars in aid abroad since the war.

I am replying to the correspondence individually, so I won't enter the debate, but I feel it utterly wrong to think that America has poured out so much money purely out of self-interest to protect herself or to prevent a depression.

Generosity

ONE of the mainstays of this undesired financial aid is the desire to help others not so fortunate.

It is more generosity than power politics. And it is continuing, despite the difficulties here and the somewhat grudging gratitude abroad.

The headlines here read: "New U.S. Aid to Bolster R.A.F. 250,000,000-dollar grants to Britain would provide new fighter squadrons to back NATO."

Last week it was announced we were going to get American beef free. Next week there will be some other gift. All that most people here want in return are friendship and thanks.

It is a pity that President Eisenhower has so much on his hands at the moment that he cannot devote more time to help make the partnership warmer.

General Eisenhower is in the middle of a grave constitutional battle, "the most momentous," the New York Times calls it, since Mr. Roosevelt's proposal to pack the Supreme Court.

The battle has been joined over a resolution known as the Bricker amendment, after its author Senator John Bricker, a

Right-Wing Republican from Ohio.

Senator Bricker wants to put paralyzing restrictions on the President's treaty-making power. He wants Congress to have that power instead.

Fighting back

EISENHOWER is fighting back with all the vigour, even anger, at his command. He is staking his leadership on defeating the Bricker amendment, which is backed by isolationists and diehards and some "moderates."

Some of the literature with which the Bricker forces are flooding the mails says: "Wake up, Americans. Get the U.S.A. out of the United Nations. Get the United Nations out of the U.S.A. Pass the Bricker amendment!"

The Brickers of the U.S. are considered at President Eisenhower. They claim he has embraced the policies of Roosevelt, Truman, and the New Deal.

New Yorkers are catching up with the duel rather belatedly. This city has been swamped with snow. For two days schools in many suburbs were shut down, traffic in Manhattan was cut to a trickle, trains ran late or not at all, and hundreds of thousands could not or did not go to work.

We have dug ourselves out now, but huge mounds of dirty snow still litter the streets and pavements. I thought the new mayor, Robert Wagner, might have done a better job in cleaning up the mess.

My neighbour said to me: "If New York is ever bombed, I hope we shall clear up the debris and get things moving more quickly than we have done this week. Ten inches of snow should not be able to cripple the city like this."

Theatres and cinemas suffered badly from the storm. They were hurt in their most vulnerable spot—the box office.

The London importation, "The Starcross Story," closed after only one performance. The star, Mary Astor, was in tears. "South Pacific" also has ended, but what a record! It ran for four years and nine months—1,925 performances. Only one musical, "Oklahoma," has run longer on Broadway.

America's biggest television star, Arthur Godfrey, is in trouble again—this time for "buzzing" an airport tower in a fit of pique after being refused permission to use his favourite runway. What has happened to Godfrey's "humility"?

'A dream'

HERMIONE GINGOLD, one of Broadway's toniest, says: "Success in a new country. It's a dream of delight, and everyone said I was mad to come." Miss Gingold's habit of smoking small cigars is fascinating New Yorkers.

Sir Cedric Hardwicke has signed to star in Charles Morgan's "The Burning Glass." He deserves a good vehicle.

Jean Simmons's contract is being sold again. Her talents have been largely wasted by Hollywood.

SAM WHITE'S PARIS LETTER

Elopement Brings Patinos Together

Paris. **THE** Patino-Goldsmith elopement has brought about an apparent reconciliation between Senator Antenor Patino and his wife.

Until the last few days the two had not spoken to each other in ten years. Over this period they have fought a series of bitterly contested maintenance suits in Paris and New York.

Only two months ago Mme. Patino's hotel suite was raided and her valuables seized in accordance with a successful claim made by her husband. Now both have travelled from Paris to Edinburgh together united in their opposition to their daughter's marriage.

Why this bitter opposition? The reason was stated four months ago in the course of a interview between multi-millionaire Patino and 20-year-old James Goldsmith. Said Patino: "You must understand that we come from a very old Catholic family." Replied Goldsmith: "That's perfect. I come from a very old Jewish family."

Under her grandfather's will daughter Isabel will inherit a fortune of two million pounds, but she will not be able to inherit under Bolivian law any part of the bulk of the Patino fortune estimated at £77 million if she marries against her father's wishes.

Isabel is a witty, cultured girl who speaks six languages, whose life was one of strict surveillance and constant chaperoning. In eloping she has emulated her eldest sister Christina—now

married to the Prince of Beauvau-Craon—who once eloped unsuccessfully in Spain.

HOMES IN FRANCE

WITH the death of Lord Norwich two little-known facts concerning his two homes in France have been revealed. One is that his Chantilly house was a virtual gift to him from the French Government. The house had previously been leased under the same terms to a former U.S. Ambassador in France, the late Mr. William Bullitt. The terms—a purely nominal rent.

His flat on the Left Bank was willed to him by the late Benjamin Guinness, the international banker.

QUOTES

A PARIS newspaper: The Englishwoman's ideal male is a rugby-playing clergyman. Playwright Marcel Aymé: Franchises is the tomb of love and friendship. It doesn't clear away misunderstandings—it only makes them worse.

WHAT THEY ASK

CANDIDATES for senior French civil service posts are being subjected to a questionnaire. Sample questions: Do detective stories exist in China? What differences are there between the fashionable and the habitual and the customary? What difference is there between an intellectual nation and an artistic one?

Why did Hitler encourage pornography? Replied one candidate to the last question: "To encourage the birth rate." The answer foreseen by the examiners was: "To undermine religion."



"Now you're home—you'll be pleased to know that while you've been celebrating your new-found wealth we've had the burglars in."

London Express Service

Communist Setbacks In The Past Year

By Walter Kolarz

AT the end of 1953 Soviet and satellite Communism found themselves politically and ideologically in a position far inferior to that which they occupied 12 months ago. In fact, from the Communist point of view, the year took a course contrary to all planning.

What the Kremlin had originally in store for Russia and the small Soviet-controlled countries of Eastern Europe is no mystery. At the 19th Soviet Party Congress in October 1952, and in the Slansky trial of December of the same year, the Communists laid their cards on the table. The Soviet Politburo and its agencies all over Eastern Europe were determined to consolidate the Soviet empire and to forestall all eventualities against that achievement, including the possible death of the Soviet dictator.

This was to be done in various ways: by the tightening up of party discipline, by putting the final touches to the ideological fabric of Marxist-Stalinist dogmatism—to be achieved in part by Stalin's famous essay on economic theory—and last, but not least, by the violent elimination of all potential opposition.

Doctors' Plot

The first few weeks of 1953 left no one in any doubt that the Soviet regime was determined to revive the atmosphere of 1937, the year of the "big purge." Early in January the Soviet press broke the fantastic news of the so-called "doctors' plot," in which they were said to have conspired against the lives of leading Soviet personalities. This was soon followed by the discovery of other minor "plots" all over Russia. The whole press, from the Soviet Army organ to the journal of the Soviet schoolboys, in language bordering on hysteria, called for "vigilance" and a "merciless fight against remnants of the class enemy."

This campaign was re-echoed throughout the satellite States, where active preparations were being made for a series of trials on the Slansky pattern.

The new wave of terror, however, was interrupted by Stalin's death. The world recalled at once that this was the end of a period and not merely the death of a man, although those who expected instantaneous and striking external changes were disappointed at least for the time being. No Soviet Army garrison refused allegiance to the new leaders. And no satellite government tried to exploit the situation or

to re-establish its independence from the empire Stalin had built.

Power was divided between the men who, for many years, had been Stalin's closest collaborators. Nor were the minor appointments of the new regime in any way sensational, except for Marshal Zhukov's return from semi-banishment.

But even in the first few weeks two significant and surprising things happened. Almost immediately after the announcement of Stalin's death his successors threw overboard a large number of State institutions and government offices which the dictator had created—showing, symbolically, how little stability the Stalinist era had really achieved.

Second Element

The second new element in Soviet policy was a series of concessions to the Russian people, calculated to enhance the popularity of the successors. The first major amnesty for many years was proclaimed. The wrongly incriminated doctors were released. And, in the various republics, various wrongs were righted and unpopular provincial bosses dismissed. In the Ukraine and Magadan in Georgia—lost their jobs.

But not until July 1953 was the world able to assess the real extent of the internal upheaval which Stalin's death had caused. Beria was arrested, and the new triumvirate in the Kremlin came to an end. As chief of the gigantic Soviet police apparatus, Beria was nearly all-powerful, and it is still a mystery how he was so easily made harmless. It seems, however, that he had little support outside two narrow categories of party members, namely officials of the MVD and leading party cadres in Transcaucasia.

Very understandably, Malenkov and his associate turned their attention to clearing out these nests of Beria's supporters, and this task filled the entire second half of 1953.

The anti-Beria purge put an end to the excessive influence of the Transcaucasian, and particularly the Georgian, Communists had enjoyed in Soviet Russia for a very long time. They were ousted from the police apparatus, where Beria had installed them with the connivance of Stalin. In purging the Georgians, the regime appealed—not too subtly—to the widespread anti-Georgian animosities of the Great Russians, just as it had tried to mobilize latent anti-Semitism in the first two months of 1953.

New Purge

Georgia, Beria's and Stalin's homeland, was shaken to the core by the new purge, which also brought brusquely to an end the comparative political stability which two other Transcaucasian republics, Armenia and Azerbaijan, had enjoyed for a considerable period. In Armenia it led to the dismissal of Party Secretary Arutunov, who had ruled the country for 16 years; in Azerbaijan it resulted in the removal of Bagirov, who had been in power for 20 years, both as Prime Minister and as Party Secretary.

Whatever the causes of the struggle inside the Communist hierarchy, and whatever its more or less plausible justifications, one thing is certain. As long as

Beria was in office, the new Soviet rulers were unable to arrive at a clear-cut decision about their future policy. Even their most basic statements of policy were made only after Beria was safely out of the way.

Only then was the long delayed budget for the current year announced; only then did they make clear what fiscal and economic measures they proposed to take. Their new economic policy included greater consideration for the needs of the consumer, greater encouragement of light industry and trade, and a rediscovery of the land.

The last-named was the most important part of the policy switch. It found expression in fairer taxation of the peasants, in more reasonable delivery quotas and in a large number of routine measures aimed at increasing agricultural production. Malenkov himself, in his speech of August 8, 1953, was the first to announce the new policy which throughout the autumn was hammered out in greater detail by his lieutenants, and particularly by Zhuravskiy, Mikoyan and Kosygin.

Revelations

Their speeches brought many interesting revelations about the true state of the Soviet economy, and were followed by a whole flood of decrees aimed at improving the flow of consumer goods during the next two or three years. All this was calculated to convey the impression, both at home and abroad, that business was going on, not only as usual but much better and more harmoniously than ever before—despite Stalin and despite Beria.

To what extent is this apparent settling down to peaceful activities genuine? The information which the Soviet Party chiefs have provided shows how great the difficulties are in the material sphere; and in addition, the Soviet Communist Party has to cope with an ideological crisis which is perhaps the worst legacy that Stalin left. His death has forced the Communist leaders to reduce his mystical figure to ordinary size and to embark on the difficult operation of separating the Stalinist cult from Communism.

This may well turn out to be a more arduous task than to bring order into Soviet agriculture and the consumer goods industry. The young Soviet generation, in particular, will find it difficult to accept the revolution ordered from above. If the highest authority—Stalin—is to be demolished, how can the lesser authorities, the masters of the day, hold their own?

It is astonishing to what extent the political universe of the Soviet Citizen has become de-personalized. No more is there a Stalin Constitution, no more a Stalin Five-Year Plan, and even the Stalin Plan for the Transformation of Nature has disappeared, not only as a term but as a fact.

Another Cause

Here lies another cause of the Soviet ideological crisis, which started to take shape in 1953 but which has not yet reached its culminating point. Russia of the post-Stalinist period no longer refers to the age of Communism, the age of abundance as something within easy reach. Stalin's successors have become more level-headed and have had no hesitation in halting his greater projects, such as irrigat-

ing deserts, erecting gigantic forest belts, and switching over to the production of more food, furniture and kitchen utensils.

This current policy of realism, if it is really followed wholeheartedly, might ultimately rescue Russia and the Russian people. But the new Soviet rulers will not be able to do this work genuinely for Russia's welfare and at the same time maintain Communist ideology in its traditional form. If Communism is scaled down and robbed of its ideological striking power, it will no longer be able to pursue its main aim, that is, to replace all the current philosophical and religious systems of the world.

The Unexpected

Developments in the satellite countries in 1953 must, of course, be considered primarily against the background of the political and ideological setbacks suffered by Soviet Communism.

The insecurity, doubts and internal struggles of the Kremlin were bound to touch them. Nowhere was the situation as complicated as in Czechoslovakia, where Stalin's principal local lieutenant, Klement Gottwald, died only a few days after his master. His successors failed to realize the weakness of their position. They went on with their old policy as if nothing had happened, and at the end of May decreed a currency reform which wiped out almost the entire savings of the people.

Then the unexpected took place. Resistance started. Workers in the principal industrial plants of the country, who had been considered the main bulwarks of the regime, stopped work and demonstrated against the Communist government. These Czech workers' demonstrations were the first major defeat the satellite Communist leaders had suffered for some time. But they were only a prelude to bigger events in another satellite country, the East German puppet State. There the Soviet advisers and their collaborators had tried to learn a lesson from the loss of face of the Czechoslovak Communists. They made an attempt to appease the people by a number of concessions. But the East Germans understood their true character, felt instinctively that they indicated official wavering and confusion, and they revolted amid a dramatic wave of unrest in the middle of June.

New Instructions

Under the immediate impact of the Czechoslovak riots and the East German rising, the Kremlin advised the satellite Communist parties to modify their policies. The gist of these new instructions to Prague and Bucharest, to Warsaw and Budapest, to Sofia and Tirana, seems to have been roughly this:

"In the present difficult situation you must try to maintain and consolidate political power through promises and concessions to the public. But you must avoid the mistakes of the East German Communists. Concessions must be granted, not at a time of apparent détente. You must give the impression that you are initiating a new economic programme, that life will become easier for the farmer and the consumer. There must be a momentary 'letting up' over industrialization, and perhaps some of the more labour-intensive money-wasting construction projects will have to be stopped."

For the rest, study carefully the decrees which the Soviet Government is issuing to relieve the situation in Russia itself, and apply them, mutatis mutandis to your own countries.

So the new Communist policy of appeasement started, simultaneously in most of the satellite countries. In the majority of cases it took the form of new, revised versions of scheduled economic plans. The concessions varied according to special local conditions. The Hungarian Government, for instance, saw itself compelled to go a little further than others in meeting the widespread opposition to collectivization. It actually allowed peasants to leave the collective farms in certain circumstances and at the price of considerable material sacrifice. In Bulgaria, a decree about the compulsory direction of labour was repealed. In Rumania construction of the unpopular Danube-Black Sea Canal was suspended.

But the importance of these "concessions" is all but nullified by the fact that the Communist regimes of Eastern Europe took great care not to forfeit any of the totalitarian power of the police state. Political trials and arrests of the opponents of Communism continued, and the persecution of the Church, far from relenting, reached a new dramatic pitch by the arrest of the Polish Prime Minister—Cardinal Wyszynski—on September 26.

Going Slow

The general situation has made it necessary, however, to go slow with inner party purges. From Rumania came the surprising official news that Anna Pauker was no longer under arrest while the Gomulka trial in Poland seems to have been shelved indefinitely. In Czechoslovakia and Hungary, several Communist personalities who had temporarily vanished have reappeared in other official positions.

Only in the East German Communist Party were there new, major casualties, including, among others, the former Minister of State Security, Wilhelm Zaisser.

Although there has been an absence of major purges, the situation within the satellite Communist parties, except the Albanian, have called for the standpoint of their leaders, highly unsatisfactory. At the end of the year they had been compelled to make another supreme effort to save the inner-party situation. All the satellite Communist parties, except the Albanian, have called congresses for the beginning of 1954. These will legalize the position of the party chiefs, many of whom are usurpers who have never been properly elected by the party rank and file.

It is not possible to sum up the desires of Eastern Europe in 1953 without mentioning a number of imponderable factors. These include in the first place the hardships and suffering which political and social oppression have inflicted upon many millions of people. Another factor vital for the assessment of the situation in Eastern Europe is the latent hostility against regimes which have kept themselves in power by violence and deceit. Finally, there is the ancient and widespread wish throughout Eastern Europe to see the Iron Curtain broken and a great longing for peace, not as a Soviet slogan, but as a genuine peace between free and equal nations.

Parasitic skin disease, itching, eczema etc.

'Mitigal'

OIL & OINTMENT

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Largest Morning Circulation

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NORTH (D) 28			
AKQ108			
AKJ2			
765			
AK3			
WEST			
7432			
9876			
AK1042			
None			
EAST			
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North	East	South	West
1	Pass	4 N T (C)	Pass
2	Pass	6	Pass
3	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♦K			

BY OSWALD JACOBY

IF you think that only beginners misuse the Blackwood Convention, you are quite wrong. Today's hand was played in the European Championships last August at Helsinki, and the Swiss team was clumsy enough to perpetrate the bidding shown in the diagram.

It could have been worse, too. South cannot be sure that North has even one ace. North might have king-queen-jack in each of the three highest suits and would surely have a fine opening bid—but the enemy would take three aces.

The rule for the Blackwood Convention when your best suit is a minor is very simple. You must have two aces of your own. Then if your partner bids five clubs to show no ace, you can stop at the level of five. And if your partner makes any other response, you are still in control of the situation.

It would be pleasant to report that justice triumphed—that the Swiss players were justly punished for their awkward bidding. But the truth is quite otherwise. South made his slam.

West opened the king of diamonds and then tried the ace of diamonds. It wasn't a good idea, although it was hard for West to know.

South ruffed the second diamond and ran every single one of his trumps, saving the hearts in the dummy. South's own last three cards were two pades and a heart.

Just try to find three good cards for East to have. He needs the ace of spades, and he needs three hearts to the queen. When the hand was actually played, East finally threw the ace of spades in the hope that his partner had the nine and could thus control the suit. South thereupon cashed the nine of spades and took the last two tricks with dummy's ace and king of hearts.

The gallery applauded, for it was a brilliant recovery for South, but the Swiss declarer had the grace to look sheepish over the way he had bid the hand.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Heart	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
2 Diamonds	Pass		

You, South, hold: Spades K-J-7-3-2, Hearts K-5-3, Diamonds 9-4, Clubs A-5-4. What do you do?

A—Bid three hearts. You must show signs of strength since you hold 11 points in normal high cards, 1 point extra for the king of partner's bid suit, and 1 point for a doubleton. A bid of only two hearts would show merely a weak preference.

TODAY'S QUESTION

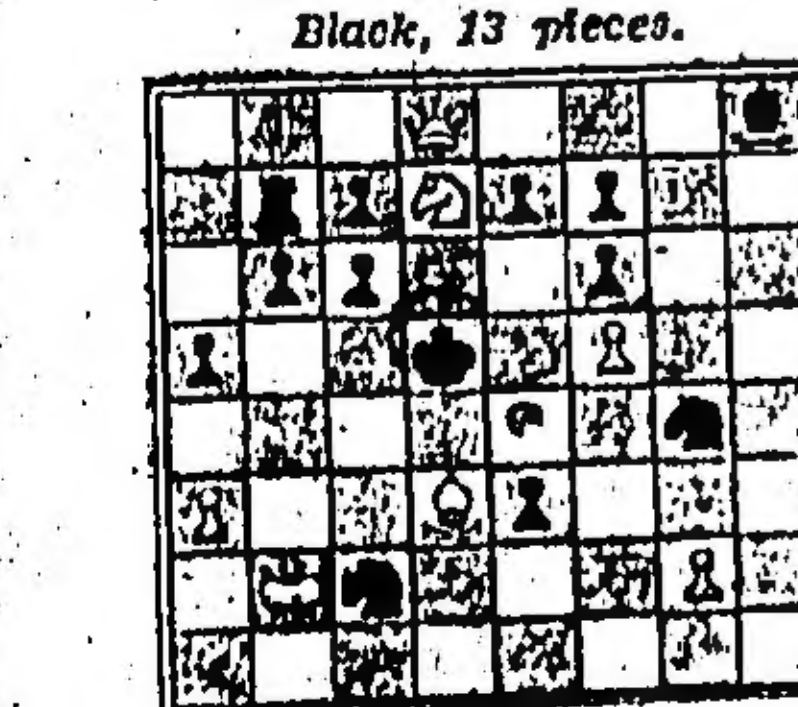
The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-J-7-3-2, Hearts K-5-3-2, Diamonds 7-5-4, Club 4. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

CHESS PROBLEM

By A. AKERBLOM

Black, 33 pieces.

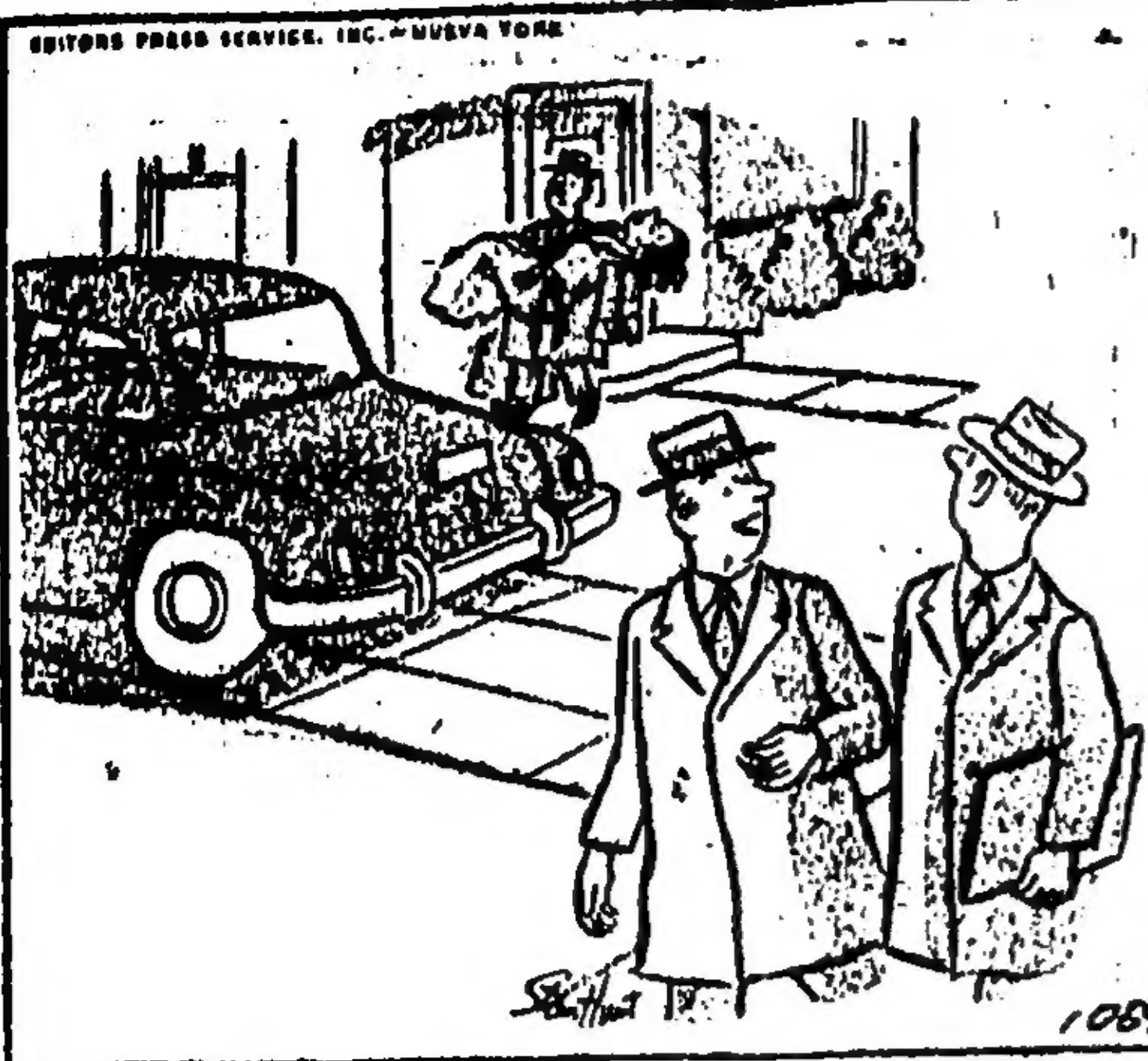


White, 7 pieces.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. Qc8, any; 2. Q, or K.

White.



"When they get to the Station he wakes her up and she drives the car home."

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

IF you have your own birthday, you may become what you desire in life. You have an interest and talent in the arts and are fond of travel. Since you like adventure and excitement, you want to be the top of the move most of the time. It might be well for you to remember the old adage that rolling stones gather little moss.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Plan to do some heavy work on the weekend and get all your affairs in order. (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—You can bring an error in judgment, if you act on impulse alone. (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Be very careful how you invest your time and material resources. Don't be fooled by external factors.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—Don't get all details of your business. (May 22-June 21)—If you have been planning to do an important job, stop it and see that you get the work finished. (June 22-July 21)—If a lot of work is facing you today, tackle the worst job first and the rest will come easier.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)—See that your accounts balance properly these days. Even try to save a little something if you can. (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Hurry in early start on the job that means any excess money can be put to good use.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)—If you have been neglecting the clothes question, lately, now is the time to refresh your wardrobe.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—If you have a heavy workload, schedule so that you get an early start on it this morning.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—Unless you get the week's work up to date, you can't plan social festivities for the week-end.

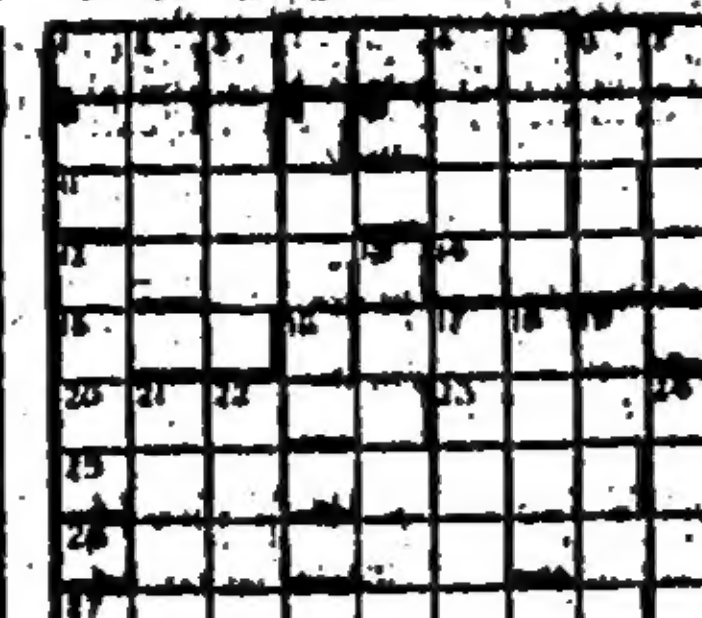
For the week-end, you may want to write or lecture on your travels very successfully.

You have a natural talent for making money and will probably find that you can earn a comfortable living with little or no effort. But to reach the top of the success ladder, you will need to apply yourself assiduously and conscientiously. Learn to finish one job thoroughly before you go on to the next one.

You are romantic, affectionate and loving. Your loyalty is often a weakness. You are quite young and select someone who likes to get a lot of fun out of life too. You can make a jolly pair and raise a happy family which becomes a complete social unit within itself. You make a fine and a loving parent.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

CROSSWORD



Across
1. 10. Sound like something checked on the board. (4, 5)
2. Before the centre of the twist. (3)
11. Does a lady tie her hair thus to prevent it coming wet? (4, 5)
12. Otherwise a name. (5)
13. Sounds as if it might be some. (4)
14. Solent Street. (4)
15. River in the West. (5)
16. It holds a secret. (5)
17. Tiny, but mighty. (5)
18. It turns on for the criminal in a. (4)
19. Are these actors from the Coast Valley? (6, 5)
20. Does back. (4)
21. Traveller before Chatter. (5)

Down
1. Home of Miss Mabel's companion. (3)
2. Mural, but no manuscript. (4)
3. About the crest—do it again. (5)
4. First King of Israel. (4)
5. Called by place-name. (4)
6. You'll always get an answer. (4)
7. Something useful in Erin. (4)
8. The place is quite divided. (5)
9. Four of these pieces make a pool hazard. (4)
10. Parts of the window. (5)
11. It is a. (4)
12. A. (4)
13. A. (4)
14. A. (4)
15. A. (4)
16. A. (4)
17. A. (4)
18. A. (4)
19. A. (4)
20. A. (4)
21. A. (4)

Yesterday's solution.
Across
1. 10. Sound like something checked on the board. (4, 5)
2. Before the centre of the twist. (3)
11. Does a lady tie her hair thus to prevent it coming wet? (4, 5)
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15. A. (4)
16. A. (4)
17. A. (4)
18. A. (4)
19. A. (4)
20. A. (4)
21. A. (4)

WHAT'S HIS LINE?

E. RALLINGS

Rearrange the letters to spell his occupation.

(Solution on Page 10)

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

SMARTLY-DRESSED reception hostesses would make the busy day. They would run up and down corridors, proffering such information as, "We are now passing Twiddlebury."

They would mingle with the housewives in the compartments offering biscuits and delicious chemical drinks, brushing the men's clothes, helping the women to make up their faces, and telling stories to restless children having won all hearts, they would pay to passers-by about to fight. "Oh, don't get Why not pay the excess fare, and come on with us to Mumblebury?"

Twenty Years of Upoor

The orchestra would have sounded better with fewer double basses.

A YEAR or two ago Ruffinetti's singing was marred by what a critic called "not strictly musical activity in the cabaret." As she came to the words "I hear a thing echo" in Drexler's "Marguerite" something about the violin went pop, and a champagne cork hit the conductor (Arnold) on the brow. Later on, during a moving passage

in Wagner's semi-cyclical "Silence," a little fell on to the drum, bounced off, and hit one of the housewives.

A non-palatable body-fuel

The present soap bean milk is not attractive.

(Morning paper)

AND I can guess why. It is deficient in hydrocarbons. A man who tried to make butter out of dried soap beans blew himself up when he forgot to defreeze the soyamilk. The frozen synthetic soyamilk, made from processed soy beans, is to the genuine soyamilk what stoneware is to plastic. It is to genuine soyamilk as soap is to butter.

Nothing to do with me

A horsehoe on her first night probably meant well. But much pastures may be misjudged, he Blundered in the boulevard who sent La Belle Otero a horsehoe.

Another lady "But perhaps she's not a wooden leg. It was Lane de Poivre, Otero's rival, who when the gentleman with whom they were supping offered Otero the menu, said, "That's what I call putting the cards before the horse."

WOMANSENSE

His wife is loaded with money and consider what he misses!

Casual Sportswear



Fisherman knits are something new in the woolly world for spring. These large, loose pullovers and cardigans, in heavy, ribbed wool, are inspired by the fishermen's jerseys. For casual sportswear they promise to replace last season's darling, the blazer.

Men are falling for fisherman knits for golf, riding and walking.

Above is a husband and wife set sketched by artist Rix.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Turkish towels used as bath-room curtains are decorative, economical and easy to launder by machine. They need no ironing, but will dry more smoothly if you rub towel surfaces to make the pile more uniform.

To hang towel curtains sew a casing or set of rings to the back of each towel, and slip over curtain rods. The steamiest bathroom can't turn these limp.

To avoid danger from home fires, be sure electric currents can safely carry toasters and other appliances. Electric circuit must be sufficient to carry peak loads, such as reading lamps, radio, electric heaters, and so forth, simultaneously. Consult a good electrician, if in doubt.

Two household necessities, often neglected when it comes to cleaning are mirrors and pictures. The glass in picture frames and the surface of mirrors seldom show their dusty films, since this accumulates so gradually as not to be noticeable. Go over picture glass and mirrors periodically, with a clean cloth wrung

out in warm soapsuds. The view may be surprisingly improved.

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Four and Twenty Blackbirds

—The Shadows Saw Them in Mother Goose Land—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, made themselves small (which shadows have no trouble doing), and crept inside the Mother Goose Book. A moment or two later, they found themselves on a pleasant country road.

On both sides of the road stretched fields in which flowers were growing, cows were grazing, and over which bees and birds were flying. But Knarf and Hanid quickly found out that they were not in an ordinary country.

Strange Habits

For every now and then, the cows stood up on their hind legs and walked to another part of the fields, and the bees flew down and stood on the fence and talked to each other, and the bees had buckets over their arms which they filled with honey, and some of the flowers got up and walked from one place to another just as though they had legs.

"Funny things happen in Mother Goose Land, don't they?" Knarf remarked to his sister Hanid.

Before Hanid had a chance to answer, one of the birds on the fence—a loud voice: "And

funny things come to Mother Goose Land. For instance, folks like you!"

Very Rude Crow

Hanid said sharply: "You're a very rude crow."

"I beg your pardon," said the bird. "I'm not a crow! I'm a blackbird."

"Then you're a very rude blackbird," said Hanid.

At this, all the other blackbirds standing on the fence beside the first one, the one Hanid had called rude, all began to laugh.

"Come, Knarf," said Hanid, as she turned away. "I don't like these birds at all."

"Fraidy-cat," said the first blackbird again.

"I'm not afraid at all," said Hanid angrily. And she turned back again and stood looking severely at the whole line of blackbirds standing on the fence. She thought, as she looked at them, that there were quite a lot of them.

"As a matter of fact," said another one of the blackbirds, in a much more polite tone than the first blackbird had spoken, "we're very important birds."

"Are you?" said Hanid.

"You don't think so," said the same blackbird. "Just count us!"

Without any warning, the strange journey ends with the birds being dropped flat and the landscape left as it was. The mother and Constable Grotter are standing beside them, and Mrs. P is given more astonished to see them in such a queer place.

Rupert's New Year Adventure—30

Have you your copy of MORE ADVENTURES of RUPERT? \$5. per copy

Whiteaways Stocktaking SALE THE GREATEST OF THEM ALL!

ELGIN TOWELS AT SALE PRICES

ELGIN TURKISH TOWELS

HEAVY, SOFT & ABSORBENT IN PLAIN WHITE

Size 48 x 26 Sale Price \$ 5.00

Size 60 x 32 Sale Price \$ 9.00

Size 72 x 45 Sale Price \$13.50

AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONGKONG

ELGIN TOWELS IN ATTRACTIVE SELF COLOURS

Size 44 x 23 Sale Price \$ 6.25

Size 60 x 32 Sale Price \$11.50

Size 72 x 45 Sale Price \$16.50

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO. LTD. KOWLOON

TOMMY ATKINS' Army Sports Parade

Out on their own at the top of the Tommy Atkins' Sports Parade this week are the Army soccer players for their brilliant victory over South China on Sunday afternoon at the Club Stadium.

The players gave a thrilling never-say-die display and fought back relentlessly to pull the game out of the fire in the closing minutes. One important factor in this win was the obvious fitness of the team and their understanding with each other.

Newcomer Tim Taffy Thomas, who was at the deep end in the biggest match of the season, showed that he had plenty of confidence as well as ability above the ordinary.

One of the particularly pleasing features was the grand play of Stevens who is due to leave the Colony in the very near future. If this display is to be taken as a guide Stevens' hopes of making a career in the game when he returns to the United Kingdom seem to be well on the way to fruition.

In a first round tie in the Inter-Unit Hockey Championship played on Tuesday, H.K. Signals beat RASC by 5 goals to 2 and passed into the next round.

ATHLETICS

The Army will be strongly represented in the Hongkong v. K. when the 100 yards race is being staged by the HKAAA at Boundary Street next Sunday.

Twenty-seven soldiers will represent Kowloon while Hongkong will have eight Army representatives in their side.

There are several notable performers among the athletes, among them, L. L. L. of the 14th Field Regt., RA, who will be throwing the discus for Kowloon. Lambert has twice been British Army Champion discus thrower.

In 1948 he won the event while serving as an officer cadet. He won the title again in 1951 when he had a very good throw of 120'6" and he is expected to make a big effort to win this particular event on Sunday.

SSI Doherty, APIC, will be representing Hongkong in the Hammer event and reports indicate that he has a big improvement on his throw this year. He has a big improvement on his throw this year. He has a big improvement on his throw this year.

The personnel who have been selected for this event have already been notified. Any competitor who for any reason is not available is requested to inform the SCPT at HQLE (Force 488) as soon as possible.

Army competitors are asked to report to the Hon. Secretary, HKAAA, at the Boundary Street ground not later than 1.30 p.m. as the meeting is scheduled to start at 1.45 p.m. sharp.

Entries for the Land Forces Inter-unit Team Boxing Championship for 1954 are due to the SCPT. Already six important clubs have been selected and there is every indication that the event is going to be one of the best for some years.

The following units have entered: 1. R. Norfolk, 2. R. King, 3. R. B. 1, 4. R. 25 Fd. Regt. RA, and 5. R. 25 Fd. Regt. RA.

The event promises some excellent fighting and after their good showing in the Individual Championships the 1 King's will be certainly most favourites to win the title.

INTER-UNIT SOCCER

The draws for second rounds of the Major and Minor Units Football Challenge Cups were made during the week and are as follows:

Major Unit Competition (To be played before March 10, 1954):

1. Welch vs. 32 Med. Regt. RA, 2. LAA Regt. RA vs. 1. Norfolk, 3. 25 Fd. Regt. RA vs. 1. Dorset.

20 Fd. Regt. RA vs. 1 King's, Minor Units Competition (To be played before February 17, 1954):

8 Coy. RASC vs. 0 COD, 9. Coy. RASC vs. H.K. Sig. HQ 36 Inf. Bde. vs. 23(Gib) HAA Bty. RA.

137 (Java) HAA Bty. RA vs. 16 Fd. Pk. Regt. RA or 6 HAA Bty. RA, 20 FDS vs. 11 Int W/Shops REME.

173 Loc Bty. RA vs. Comd. W/Shops REME, 33 Gen. Hospital vs. RMP Hongkong, 170 Lt. Bty. RA vs. Command Pay Office.

Colchester And Gillingham Didn't Profit By It ... BUT OTHER NON-LEAGUE CLUBS CONTINUE TO PULL STRINGS TOWARD THIRD DIVISION STATUS

By ARCHIE QUICK

Great pressure is being brought to bear on the First and Second Division clubs to elect new teams to the Southern and Northern Sections of the Football League when voting time comes round next June. The Walsalls, Workingtons, Aldershots, Darlington's of this sporting world are in danger of being consigned to cold, cold non-League existences as New Brighton so unexpectedly were two seasons ago.

Peterborough, with their 10,000 "gate" average; Hendon United, still in the FA Cup competition with two successes over Third Division clubs, Millwall and Stockport County, a string of earlier Cup victories and possession of the Southern League Championship and Cup; Wigan Athletic, with a draw at Newcastle to their credit and a 27,000 home "gate", urgently need admission to the Third Division.

Heaven knows why after the experiences of Colchester and Gillingham, who were transformed from non-League into struggling League clubs.

Here is a future word of warning. Mr. A. L. Dickinson, who has been Secretary of the Southern League for over 20 years and a Millwall director before that, has supplied me with statistics that show that this season and last not one Southern League club has averaged 3,000 "gates", while Middlesbrough FC have averaged a 50 percent decrease this season from last. A League club could not exist on those figures.

And talking of Southern League figures, Hereford is a quiet cathedral city of 30,000 population. Yet the local United club lives on weekly prize draws. I will quote just one. First prize was £1,800 for a shilling with a scale of equally handsome prizes down the list. On a 30,000 population, you say. Why, the membership of this one particular club is 108,500! A miniature Las Vegas, eh?

The four last non-League clubs to be left in the Cup—Peterborough, Hastings, Headingley and Wigan—are to organise a competition among themselves to prove who are "Non-League Cup Champions". Not to be outdone, the Southern League hope to organise a mid-week Floodlight Championship and so top a new source of population and income.

Of their 22 clubs, nine possess floodlit installations. Weymouth, Exeter, Cheltenham, Worcester, Hereford, Kidderminster, Hendon, Hastings and Gravesend. The other 13 clubs would be free to enter.

The Southern League have also passed a new rule authorising replayed Cup ties or postponed League matches to be played under the "lights". COSTLY BUSINESS.

Colchester FC has spent £25,000 buying Stanley Wicks, Reading's local centre-half. Where he is going to be fitted in, I do not know, for the Chelsea side which has gone ten matches without defeat—a post-war record—has an outstanding centre-half in Ronnie Greenwood and sound deputies for him in John Harris and the two Saunders.

Wicks also plays full back or wing half, but Chelsea have Willemse, Harris, Tickle, Sillett, Armstrong, Saunders, McKnight and a host of other good players for these positions. Perhaps the £25,000 was spent to prevent other clubs getting Wicks—but it is a costly business.

"Spurs" too are said to covet Sheffield Wednesday's International, Redfern Froggatt—but at 72 (seven) there are Bailey, Bennett, Harmer and a long queue of others for the inside positions. Sunderland and Liverpool, too, even after their recent spending spree, are still looking for new players to pull them away from relegation.

Meanwhile, Matt Busby, whom I met in London on his way to the Italy International, goes merrily on his way introducing new and local youngsters into his Manchester United eleven. He set up an all-time League record recently by having eight players under 21 years of age in his team. And they won.

Commission To Inquire Into Betting Policy In Malaya

Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 27. The High Commissioner for Malaya, General Sir Gerald Templer, has appointed a commission to inquire into betting policy in the Federation.

Bookmaking in Malaya is illegal, although there are so many illicit bookkeepers who are willing to pay customers a 15 per cent commission on bets to secure business.

Officials here pointed out that it is impossible to suppress betting among the gambler-loving Chinese and Malays and the 15 per cent commission on bets paid to punters could easily be represented as "taxes" pouring into Government coffers.—China Mail Special.

Then there is West Ham. As I write, they are out in the mid playing high up on the South Downs at the back of Brighton and in the party of 16 players there are ten not yet 21 years old and only two over 25. Yet in each of their last three games they had scored four goals and one of those matches was a Cup tie against Middlesbrough Town who are third in the First Division.

They are not much good at golf but they can certainly play football. Brightest future of all is forecast for winger Harry Hooper, who is also the Army's current left winger. He is the son of the half back who captained Sheffield United just before the War and his father is now West Ham's assistant manager. Manager Ted Fenton says the boy is the best winger the club has had since the great Jimmy Ruffell.

The two "teenage wing halves, Big and Malcolm, are already stars and Malcolm is carrying on from where he left off as England's schoolboy international captain. Next to Fulham's tie, I would say West Ham's inside forwards are the most talented in the Second Division and they are all good for years to come.

CHARLTON v. PORTSMOUTH



Charlton's second goal against Portsmouth in their third round Cup tie replay at the Valley, Charlton.

Platt, the Portsmouth goalie, makes a vain attempt to save as Stuart Leary, Charlton centre-forward, on left of centre trio of players, heads the ball into the net.

In the picture are J. Mansell, Portsmouth left back (No. 3) and Flewin, Portsmouth centre-half (No. 5).

LUCAS - ROLLINSON FIGHT PROVED THE BEST ON THE CARD AT KAI TAK

By OUR BOXING CORRESPONDENT

The Royal Air Force staged a most interesting boxing tournament at Kai Tak last night.

The outstanding bout of the evening was the lightweight meeting of Pte. Rollinson of the King's Regt. and LAC Lucas of the RAF. The airman is the complete boxer-fighter and in this fight he was a clear winner, but Rollinson put up a grand show and his determined resistance and willingness to fight back in the face of accurate punching, made this a contest that was worth going a long way to see.

Rollinson is as tough as he is competent and from the first bell to the last he scorned Lucas' reputation and took all that was coming without ever losing his composure.

Lucas is in an unfortunate position as he is finding it hard to get top class opposition and training partners who can really extend him, but in this bout he showed that he is willing to take a punch and launch his all action attack. He was ahead all the way but although he dropped Rollinson once he could not finish the fight inside the distance.

The big crowd gave both boxers a well deserved and prolonged round of applause at the end of the fight and the compliments which Referee Kearney extended to both at the time of announcing the decision were worthily earned.

The featherweight clash of Pte. Dudson, RAMC, and L/Cpl. Reaney, King's Regt., provided the spectators with plenty of action and hard hitting. Reaney is a strong southpaw, but on this occasion he relied too much on counter-punching and the verdict went to Dudson who had carried the fight to his man throughout.

The crowd appeared to think that the more spectacular Rooney had done enough to win but in my opinion the verdict was a correct one as Rooney was often guilty of hitting with the open glove.

ON A LIVELY NOTE The evening finished on a lively note and the last two

Japanese Invite "Lefty" O'Doul And Joe Dimaggio Tokyo, Jan. 27.

The Central League, one of two Japanese professional baseball leagues, today announced that they had decided to invite San Diego Manager Francis "Lefty" O'Doul, former New York Yankees star Joe Dimaggio and another player from the New York Yankees to Japan next month.

The League hoped these stars could strengthen the technique of Japanese baseball players. Joe Dimaggio recently married film actress Marilyn Monroe, China Mail Special.

Fortunate Kelly quickly spotted the limitations of his opponent and showed commendable consideration and restraint in dealing with him. Smith was knocked out in the last round but he was more physically tired than sent down by Kelly's blow, well placed though it was.

OTHER RESULTS The results of the other fights were as follows: Welter: LAC Court, RAF, KO'd Pte. Cox in 1st Rd. Bantam: Fong Yu Chun, China Gym, KO'd LAC Corby, RAF, in 1st Rd.

Mrs. R. Lemaitre-Papp lost to A. L. de Jong. To Yu-lau beat F. Bowser. J. G. Molade beat A. E. Peatuna. R. Rodriguez lost to J. Waldker. H. Black beat D. van der Werf.

The Chess Club won the match by 13 points to 6.

Dr. Milch lost to L. H. ten Berger. Mrs. R. Lemaitre-Papp lost to A. L. de Jong. To Yu-lau beat F. Bowser. J. G. Molade beat A. E. Peatuna. R. Rodriguez lost to J. Waldker. H. Black beat D. van der Werf.

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THE GAMBOLS

by Barry Appleby

MEN'S TAILORS

IT WAS VERY CHEAP

AND I THOUGHT THAT PRAP YOU COULD ALTER IT FOR ME

MEN'S TAIL

CLOSING SALE

LAST CHANCE

WOMEN'S TAILORS

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

WOMEN'S TAIL

POINT 9

Surf

MAKES SHIRTS

AND SHEETS

DAZZLING

WHITE

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

Surf

CCC Ladies Beat Recreio At Badminton

In a friendly ladies' return badminton match at the Craigengower hall last night, the Craigengower Cricket Club repeated their win over Club de Recreio by five sets to four.

The Recreio ladies showed vast improvement on their form in the first match and fully extended their opponents up to 3-3 when the outstanding combination of Helen Kwong and Dorothy Lam asserted their superiority to win their third set of the evening by beating Bernadine Remedios and Gloria Sequiera by 21-9.

Perla Dhabber and School-girls' triple champion Mary Wong upset all calculations by taking the deciding set from Chuchi Campos and Rita Marques by 21-14 after trailing behind by 2-0.

THE RESULTS

CCC 5-Recreio 4
Helen Kwong and Dorothy Lam (CCC) beat Bernadine Remedios and Gloria Sequiera 21-9; Chuchi Campos and Rita Marques 21-3; beat Betty Baptista and Marge Rozario 21-9.

Elvie Trok and Stella Corren (CCC) lost to Remedios and Sequiera 12-21; beat Campos and Marques 11-21.

Stella Corren and Mrs Jenny Yung (CCC) lost to Baptista and Rozario 11-21.

Perla Dhabber and Mary Wong (CCC) lost to Remedios and Sequiera 4-21; beat Campos and Marques 21-14; lost to Baptista and Rozario 15-21.

Russian Claim World Records For Swimmers

Moscow, Jan. 27.
A Soviet swimming team today claimed a world record for the four-man 400 Metres Medley Relay, covering the distance in 4 minutes 21.3 seconds.

Backstroke swimmer Victor Solodiev made the first leg in 68.4 seconds. Breaststroke man Vladimir Minachkin, the next leg, was clocked in 71.1 seconds. Butterfly-stroke swimmer Peter Skripitchenko swam the third leg in 67.3 seconds, and the last man, Lev Balandine, crawled through the last lap in 55.5 seconds.

The record was broken at a swimming contest at which the cream of the Soviet swimming world took part.

In the 100 Metres Breast Stroke, Champion Vladimir Minachkin beat his own relay time by one second to set up what is claimed as a new world record—70.1 seconds.

Another record claimed was that for the European 400 Metres Free Style Relay which was won in 3 minutes 52 seconds. The swimmers were V. Kourenkov, Peter Brevous, L. Balandine and Vladimir Skornorivski. Soviet and Ukrainian records were also broken.—France-Press.

EARL WALLS BEATEN

Toronto, Jan. 27.
Tommy Harrison of Los Angeles, California, pounded out a unanimous 10-round decision over Earl Walls of Toronto last night and spoiled the Canadian's chances of an early fight with Heavyweight Champion Rocky Marciano.

A crowd of 14,337, largest number ever to see a fight here, paid \$41,361 to jam Maple Leaf Gardens for the event, which marked the first time a major fight had been televised in Canada.

Harrison, who weighed 183 pounds, compared with Walls' 190½, carried the fight almost all the way and scored the Canadian for a nine-count in the fourth round. It was the only knockdown.

The result dimmed the Canadian Negro's immediate hopes of getting a crack at Marciano but boosted Harrison's chances of an early championship fight. Walls now is ranked fifth among the world's heavies while Ring magazine lists Harrison eighth.—United Press.

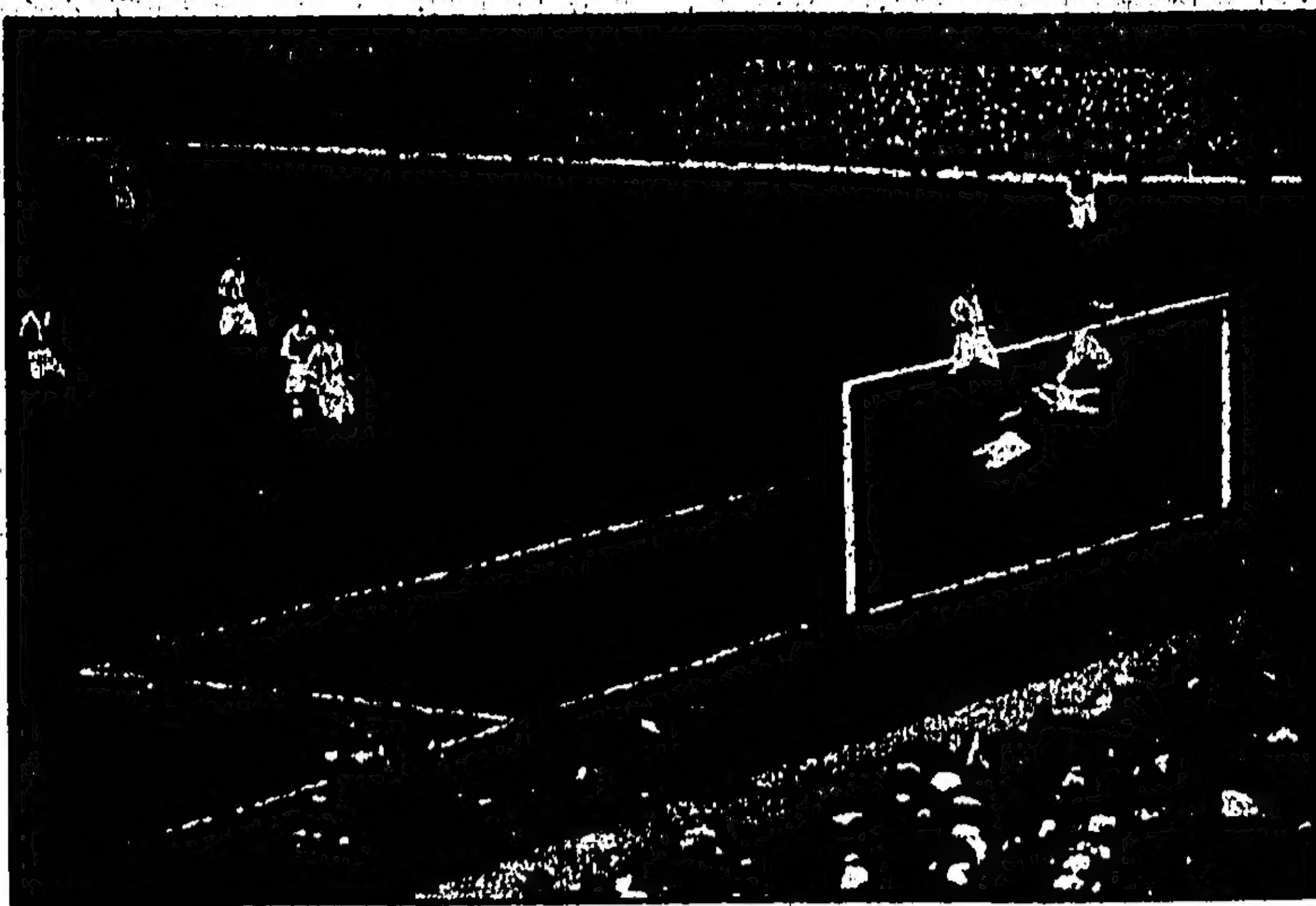
BEST PAID IN CINCINNATI HISTORY

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 27.
First baseman Ted Kluszewski, whose 40 home runs last season were a record for the Cincinnati Reds, today became the highest paid player in Cincinnati history.

Terms of the contract for the coming baseball season were not announced, but General Manager Claude Paul said that Kluszewski received a substantial salary increase.

"The increase makes Ted the highest paid player in the history of the Cincinnati team," Mr. Paul said.—United Press.

ARSENAL v. WEST BROMWICH ALBION



Holton passes to Lishman (right in dark jersey) who scores for Arsenal to make the score 2-2. All four goals were scored in the first half of the match. The final score remained Arsenal 2, West Bromwich Albion 2. Nicholls scored both goals for West Brom. In the first 15 minutes of the game, Then Lishman scored two goals for Arsenal, and the match ended as a draw.—Express Photo.

COIN-IN-THE-SLOT TV

The Movie Fan Of Tomorrow Will Have The Choice Of The Best At Home

By P. H. POWELL

Hollywood, beset by its greatest crisis, Television, is looking in every direction for salvation—3-D, CinemaScope, wider and bigger screens, bigger images, greater sound, and anything else that may come along.

But there is one way which may lead to the making of fortunes as yet undreamed of. It has all the simplicity of a great idea.

This is known by the unimpressive name of Telemeter, and it makes use of Television instead of trying to fight it. Paramount Pictures have shown their belief in it by taking a half share in the system which is nothing more than a slot machine which channels a desired picture into the home on the television set.

What could be simpler—provided two things come out right? One is that the Federal Communications Commission, who control all broadcasting in the U.S., give their blessing, and the other that it "catches on."

And after the phenomenal success of TV in terms of sales sold no one doubts that better TV will pay off.

That is what the backers of Telemeter are relying on—the average poor level of entertainment at present provided in America, and the terrible cost of the most popular programmes, the only ones that are really worth watching.

If people will push coins into a slot and see a first-feature film, or for fewer coins a reasonably good "B" picture, then at least one studio is going to make more money than it has ever touched, and the others won't be far behind.

This is how it works. Television set owners must install a coin meter which is attached to their sets. At the hour when a film is due to start they tune to the proper station.

A scrambled preliminary comes on to the screen and a dial on the Telemeter shows how much it will cost to see the picture and announce the film.

WHAT WILL IT COST? The right amount—anything up to two dollars (15s) shows on the dial—having been put in the slot, the picture is unscrambled and the family sit back and enjoy it, or otherwise.

The Telemeter records which film—or live show, such as a sports event—was chosen. Thus the audience can be totalled and proof obtained of what the share-out should be.

What will viewers pay for a film, which may have cost anything up to four million dollars (\$1,400,000) to make? How long will it take to make Telemeter a going concern? How can the industry supply the demand?

An experimental run has been made in Palm Springs, California, chosen because it is a "dead" area where TV cannot be picked up on ordinary home aerials.

FIPED PROGRAMMES

Programmes there are piped over lines from a community aerial and distributed centre.

The film was "Forever Female" starring Ginger Rogers. It was showing for three nights at a cinema there, and was also fed over the television hook-up twice on the first evening and once on the following afternoon.

This cinema was sold right out. Telemeters had been installed at random in the homes of 70 out of 800 people who applied for it—no more were available.

A football game, Notre Dame against the University of Southern California, was added to the programme and viewers paid 1 dollar 35 cents (just under 10s), which is the price of a cinema seat in the best houses in big cities.

A £20,000 LIMIT

Little could be gathered from this for it was a novelty and it had a lot of publicity, but the number of Telemeters in Palm Springs quickly jumped to 100.

For more detailed answers to the questions I went to Mr. Paul Rainburne, a Vice-President of Paramount in New York, who is head of Telemeter development.

"There is a limit to what the advertiser can pay for television programmes," he said. "That is 60,000 dollars (about £20,000) an hour. A big manufacturing corporation will pay that for a star programme, but that is the top. And it is not enough to pay for most of the important TV attractions."

"It isn't enough, either, to pay for a motion picture, which costs from 800,000 to four million dollars (£270,000 to £1,400,000) to make and runs for one and a half hours."

"Big sports events or a performance of the Metropolitan Opera also cost more."

"If TV is to continue to be a major entertainment it needs a big daily attraction. How can it be provided? Not the way the BBC does it in England."

"Here people want to select. I am Director of the National Broadcasting Association and I am certain of that fact. We have a lot of letters from people who say they are quite willing to pay for film shows if they can choose what they see."

35,000 TV HOURS

Mr. Rainburne gave me the following figures: There are 30,000 to 35,000 hours of TV programmes a year in America, equal to about 100 hours a week per station.

New York and Los Angeles have seven stations each, and other cities are near that.

It is believed that 2,000 hours could be filled with films and special events that people would pay for. Hollywood could fill 700 to 800 of those hours, and with foreign films the total could be raised to 1,000 hours.

This would involve duplication in different areas, for Hollywood does not turn out more than 100 films a year. But this could be stopped up to one third if the demand justified it.

That would be a fine thing for Hollywood and film studios abroad as well.

Would it pay? The possibilities are so great that men accustomed to thinking in terms of big money and hairy-eyed at the prospect.

Mr. Paul MacNamara, a Telemeter executive, has stated that one picture shown on three week-end nights on a possible 20 million sets could take \$20 million dollars, at a cost of one dollar for the average family of three—36,000 each.

The cheapest cinema seats in large towns are twice that.

London, Jan. 27.

Results of tonight's friendly floodlit soccer matches were: Coventry City 2/0, Bristol City 2/0, and Bristol Rovers 2/0.

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MOTION PICTURE BOSS DECIDES

GEESE THAT LAY GOLDEN EGGS MUST BE WOODED IN THE RIGHT MANNER

By JENNIFER JOHNS

Hollywood.

I called up Mr. Eric Johnston, President of the Motion Picture Association of America, last week. Mr. Johnston was here on what he described as an "inspection trip" and half way through it I asked him what his "inspection" had revealed.

It appears that it revealed quite a lot—chiefly that, in spite of a year's struggle with the python of TV, the film industry as represented by Hollywood (which is quite a representation) is healthy, wealthy and wise.

Healthy thanks to the sudden boost of such brilliant stars as Audrey Hepburn, wealthy because 3-D has drawn queues to the box-office, (and away from their comfortable TV evenings) like hypnotised rabbits, and wise because, at the beginning of 1954, film producers and all associated with them realise that, because a few million extra TV sets are distributed up and down the country, there is no cause for panic.

During his stay in Hollywood Mr. Johnston also confirmed that "the foreign market" now provides America's film industry with nearly 50% of its total income. This, Mr. Johnston believes, is so remarkable that "great care" must be taken over the type of films which are released for showing abroad.

Mr. Johnston, in fact, recognises golden eggs when he sees them. More than that, he means to make sure that the goose which lays them is wooed in the right manner. All in all, you should be getting some good films from Hollywood during 1954.

ANOTHER RUMPU

After the rumpus about Jane Russell's "dancing with purity" in the film "French Line", another similar stir hit Hollywood last week.

This time it was all about a new film "Act of Love" starring Rick Douglas. It wasn't so much the film that caused the trouble as the advertising that went with it.

To titivate the public's appetite (as if the title wasn't enough!) the producers decided to do a little not-too-discreet advertising. In one advertisement they came out with the categorical statement: There is a thin line between an act of sin and an 'Act of Love'. In the other a drawing showed what purported to be "a line of prostitute".

The Advertising Censors of the Motion Picture Association of America "requested" that the two advertisements be withdrawn.

So far they haven't been, even if they are a little out of line. The producers say: "I guess we'll get along quite nicely, thanks, on just the title." I guess they will.

INCENTIVE FOR MARIO

Now the long-delayed re-make of "The Student Prince" is before the cameras with Britain's Edmund Purdom making motions to Mario Lanza's voice, in turbulent tenor has a new incentive to turn to work.

The income tax officials have attached his huge earnings from recording royalties for records in taxes. Unless Mario settles down to concerts, he won't have an income!

Doing her third engagement in twelve months at Las Vegas, sepiatress Lena Horne says: "I'm an introvert, rather shy and retiring, but when I get in front of an audience, I forget. I imagine myself as a simple woman appealing to people through song." Her next singing is in Florida, then to London and Paris.

Practice Match For Macao Ladies' Hockey Team

For the purpose of affording the Macao Ladies' Hockey Inter-club team an opportunity of obtaining some practice on local pitches, the Ladies' Hockey Association have selected the following to play against the Visitors on Sunday at the Army Ground, Boundary Street, bully off at 3 p.m. White shirts to be worn.

Campbell (S.H.C.), E. Thomsett (S.H.C.), J. Winterton (K.G.V.), J. Marsh (S.H.C.), M. Blenkinsop (Greenland), Remedios (R.C.B.), P. Gordo (S.H.C.), (R.C.B.), Colloco (R.C.B.), Reynolds (Grom-lins), Reserve: P. Bateman (S.H.C.).

For the Men's and Women's trial matches at Spookpoo on the same afternoon, the Hong-kong Men's team will wear coloured shirts and the Rest white shirts. The Hong-kong Ladies will wear white and the Rest coloured shirts.

The following umpires have been selected to officiate at these practices: Mena; M.A. C. A. Walker; and Mr. J. B. Gonsalves.

Referee: Mr. Maken Singh and F.L. Gordon.

Charlie Chaplin's "Limelight" prevented from being shown last year in any important cinemas, has opened at a small theatre on Hollywood Boulevard, Chaplin's Beverly Hills estate, by the way, has been chopped up into seven small sites.

Jack Benny's daughter Joan marries Seth Baker, a New York stockbroker. Vic Damone, the crooner, courted her for a year but the Bennys disapproved.

In order to meet a million dollar payment of estate taxes on his late wife's half of their properties and holdings, Bing Crosby sold one of his radio stations for \$65,000.

REASON FOR ENVY

It isn't so much the money and the cars I envy when comparing my own lot with the stars—it's the places they've been. And are likely to go to again.

My latest wave of personal jealousy fell on Eleanor Parker and Robert Taylor. These two had just arrived back in Hollywood when I almost collided with them on the Boulevard. A few words of welcome, a few questions and I discovered that they had been spending six weeks in Egypt filming MGM's "Valley of the Kings".

I gathered that they had been right in the Valley too in an attempt—for the sake of the story—to discover the tomb of a pharaoh.

There were 60 people on location with them and the filming was done in Technicolor. They visited Tutankhamen's tomb where—again for the sake of the story—it was necessary to pick people and equipment onto mules to get them to the top.

At remote St. Catherine's Monastery (walked in on all sides) the principal actors and technicians had to be hauled up and over in baskets.

As yet another pointer to Hollywood's ingenuity the company borrowed six planes from Naguib's Air Force to whip up the desert dust for them to represent a sandstorm. The winds blew, however, so that the planes weren't needed and were returned to their owners "with thanks" and the hope that they

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NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup

Saturday, 30th January, 1954.

Over 1,200,000 tickets sold to date.

The Sale of Cash Sweep Tickets on the above will close on Friday, 20th January, as follows:—

382 Nathan Road, Kowloon, at 4.00 p.m.

5 D'Aguiar Street, at 5.00 p.m.

Queen's Building, Ground Floor, Chater Road, at 6.00 p.m.

The Draw will be held in the Public Betting Hall at the Race Course, at 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 30th January, 1954.

By Order of the Stewards, PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO. Treasurers.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the 7th Race Meeting 1953/54 to be held on Saturday 13th February, 1954, (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House; the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Tuesday, 2nd February, 1954.

By Order of the Stewards, H. MISA, Secretary.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB ANNUAL RACE MEETING

Saturday, 23rd, Wednesday 27th & Saturday 30th January, 1954.

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 30 RACES

The First Race will be run at 11.30 a.m. and the First Race run at 12.00 Noon each day. The fifth interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.).

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10 a.m. each day.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED. All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

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BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"SHENGRING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 30th Jan.
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai	10 a.m. 31st Jan.
Sails from Castellan Wharf		
ARRIVALS FROM		
"FENGTIEN"	Hongkong	31st Jan.
"PAKIOT"	Shanghai	31st Jan.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"TAIYUAN"	Kobe, Yokohama, Nagoya, Yokohama & Kobe	7th Feb.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	3rd Feb.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

	Leaves	Sails
"TYRRIUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Feb. 6th Feb.
"EUMAEUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Feb. 14th Feb.
"ASCANIUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Feb. 23rd Feb.
"AGAPENOR"	Glasgow, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg	21st Feb. 25th Feb.
"TELEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Mar. 6th Mar.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

	Sails	Leaves	Arrives
G. "ASCANIUS"	Liverpool	Sailed	Neon 29th Jan.
S. "AGAPENOR"	Sailed	—	5th Feb.
G. "EUMAEUS"	do	—	13th Feb.
S. "ASCANIUS"	do	—	22nd Feb.
G. "AGAPENOR"	do	—	21st Feb.
S. "EUMAEUS"	do	—	25th Feb.
G. "TELEUS"	do	—	5th Mar.
S. "ASCANIUS"	do	—	6th Mar.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
"DONA ALICIA"	Sailed	Sailed	1st Feb.
"BATAAN"	do	do	15th Feb.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	do	do	5th Mar.
"TELEMACIUS"	do	do	18th Mar.
"DONA NATI"	do	do	1st Apr.

SAILING for NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, CRISTOBAL and JAPAN

	Leaves	Sails
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb.	18th Feb.
"DONA ALICIA"	4th Mar.	5th Mar.
"BATAAN"	19th Mar.	20th Mar.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Tathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Depart	Hongkong
HK/Singapore	(DC-4) 9:00 a.m.	Monday
HK/Manila/Batavia	(DC-4) 9:30 a.m.	Tuesday
HK/Hankow/Hongkong	(DC-4) 10:00 a.m.	Tue. & Fri.
HK/Hankow/Hongkong	(DC-4) 7:00 a.m.	Thursday
HK/Hankow/Hongkong	(DC-4) 12:00 noon	Friday

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

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Kowloon Office: Railway Road, Telephone: 5238.

Agents: HODGKIN & CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1954.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m.v. "EUMAEUS"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on January 29 and 30, 1954, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, January 27, 1954.

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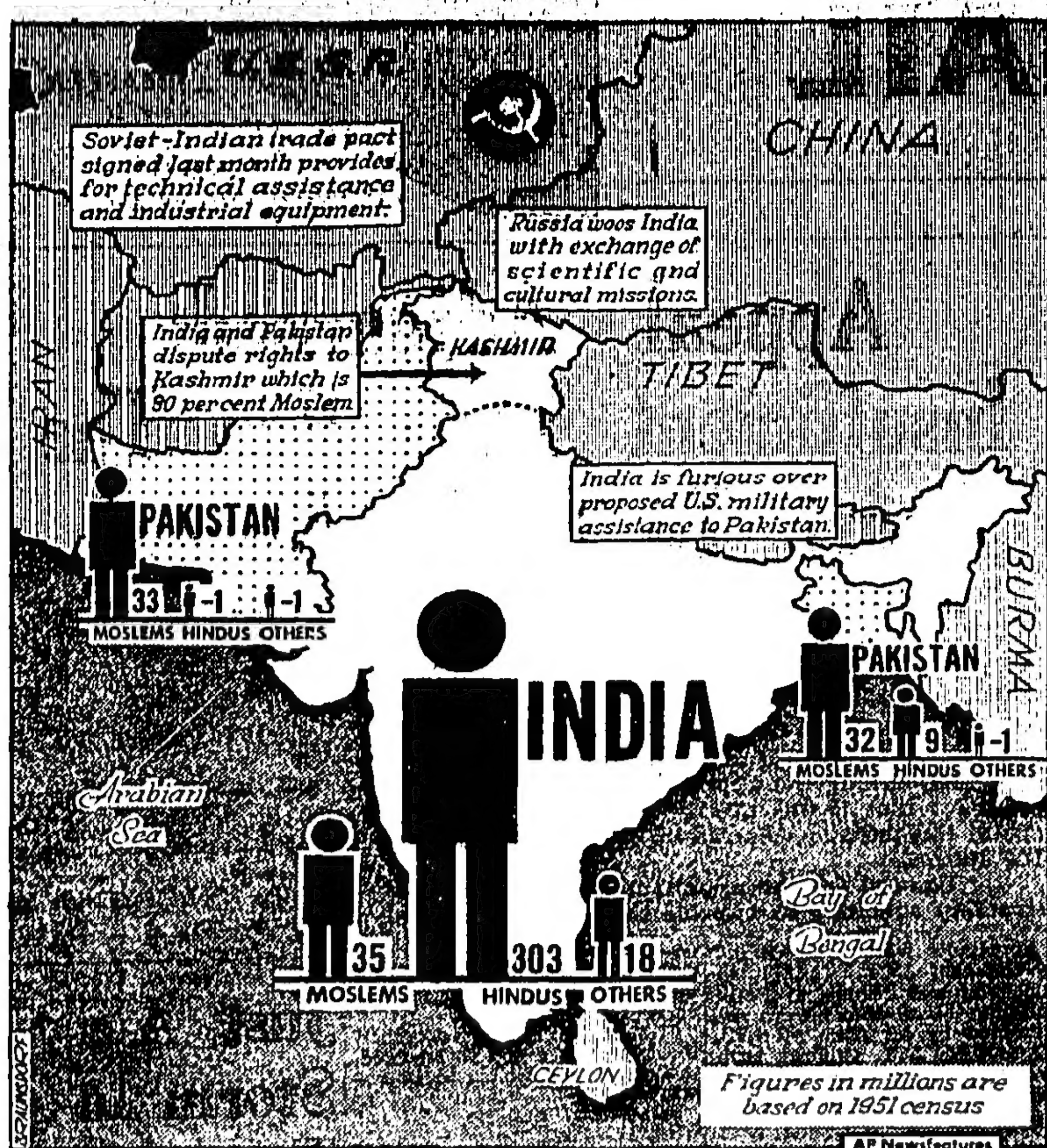
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India—Fertile Soil For Communist Propaganda Seeds

By TOM WHITNEY of Associated Press

Moscow is doing everything in its power to woo India away from neutrality in the East-West cold war. And right now, India is especially fertile soil for Communist propaganda seeds.

Moscow opportunists see a big chance to make Red hay out of a proposed American offer to arm Pakistan. These negotiations, still in the preliminary stage, have aroused great hostility and distrust of Western motives among Indians.

The armed forces of India and Pakistan face each other across the cease-fire line in the still disputed princely states of Jammu and Kashmir where less than six years ago Moslem and Hindu fought an undeclared "holy war." Pakistan is still pressing its demands for a plebiscite in Kashmir whose population is 90 per cent Moslem and wants to join Pakistan rather than Hindu India.

Arming Pakistan is a logical move from the Western point of view. The eastern anchor of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization defence line ends in Turkey.

American and British diplomats sought to extend that line into Asia through creation of a Middle East Defence Command but all those efforts have failed because of the Arab-Israeli feud and Egyptian hostility to Britain for its refusal to relinquish military control of the Suez Canal.

In his tour of the Middle East last spring, U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was

impressed with Pakistan's determination to defend its new independence and the military potential of its forces. Since then Pakistan has indicated eagerly that it received American military aid (planes, tanks, guns) it would guarantee these would be used only to repel an invader and not to settle its dispute with neighboring India.

What has especially infuriated Indian leaders is the suspicion, frequently voiced in New Delhi, that the United States may be using the pretext of arming Pakistan as a lever to force India to abandon its traditional neutrality between East and West.

It is in hopes of capitalizing on this new Indian hostility to the West and to the United States, in particular, that Russia has unleashed its latest propaganda effort.

Stream Of Visitors

Right now, one of the leading Soviet experts on Communist propaganda is in India. He is Georgi F. Alexandrov, a member of the Soviet Academy of Science, who throughout World War II was in charge of all Russian propaganda.

Alexandrov heads a group of Soviet scientists at the 41st session of the Indian Scientific Congress in Hyderabad. Alexandrov's scientific specialty is philosophy but he is at the same time a leading figure in the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. For seven years under Stalin and Malenkov, he headed the important agitation and propaganda administration of the Central Committee.

He is the latest in a stream of visitors from the Soviet Union. In India at the present time there is a big delegation of leading Soviet ballet dancers, singers, musicians and other creative workers and performers.

This large delegation's expenses are being paid by the Indian government, according to dispatches from New Delhi.

The Soviet press gave prominent attention to the arrival of the Soviet visitors. A leading Soviet newspaper said: "The Soviet delegation to India is a big step in the development of friendly relations between the two countries."

The new Soviet ambassador to India is himself a distinguished Soviet leader. He is a former minister of foreign trade, M.A. Menshikov.

Core Of A Dream

One of Menshikov's chief tasks is to push the development of Soviet trade with India. He signed a new trade pact with India only last month which provided for technical assistance and machine tools to assist Indian industrial development.

The Soviet ambassador before Menshikov was an even more distinguished man—Ivan Beldikov who is now Soviet minister of agriculture.

The Soviet play for India has been going on for a considerable period. When Premier Nehru's sister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, visited Russia, she received red carpet treatment from Soviet authorities who permitted her to tour widely throughout the country.

As long ago as February the late Joseph Stalin received two Indians for personal interviews, the Indian ambassador to Moscow, K.P.S. Menon, and a winner of the Stalin peace prize, Dr. Salfuddin Kitchlew. Soviet aims in India are the core of a long-term Communist dream—an Asia united against the West.

When India first became independent a few years ago, Stalin took an attitude rather hostile to the Nehru government. This attitude has been gradually reversed. The chances are that Russians will continue trying to "win" India away from friendship with the West. It would be a mistake to underestimate the success they have already achieved or the considerable opportunities they have.

Editor's Note: Since this article was written in New York, The Embassy Session of the Congress (Ruling) Party of India has passed a resolution endorsing the Indian Government's policy of not allowing itself to be grouped or aligned with any group of nations against any other nation. A leading party member declared at a session of the Congress that the Indian Government will continue to maintain its policy of non-alignment between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Moscow's View On The Randall Report

London, Jan. 28. Moscow Radio said last night that Britain would find little comfort in the recently published Randall report recommending a new foreign economic policy of the United States.

An English-speaking commentator, quoted there was "little doubt that if the United States Congress does decide to revise US trade policy, it can only be in the direction of tightening the noose around the necks of America's partners."

Noting that "no one can deny that Western economy, and Britain's economy as well, is experiencing 'dramatic weather,'" Ganshik said that even if the United States opened its home markets to British goods, Britain would gain nothing.

"Britain's traders will find it a hopeless job overcoming the US monopolies in the American home market, especially in view of the economic slump beginning there," he said.

American exports to India, Ceylon and Australia were already higher than Britain's. "So if these countries lower tariffs to keep in step with similar action on the part of the United States—as the Randall Commission proposes—it means the flow of American goods will completely wash out British commodities,"—Reuter.

New York Metal Futures

	Lead	Tin	Zinc	Copper
January	11.00b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
February	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
March	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
April	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
May	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
June	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
July	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
August	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
September	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
October	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
November	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b
December	11.01b	84.00b	0.85b	27.50b

LONDON MARKET

	Tin	Copper	Lead	Zinc
Spot	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2
1 month	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2
3 months	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2
6 months	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2
9 months	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2
12 months	223 1/2	224 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2

CHICAGO GRAIN FUTURES

	Wheat, No. 2 red	Spot	March	May	July	September	November
January	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
February	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
March	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
April	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
May	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
June	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
July	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
August	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
September	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
October	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
November	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2
December	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2	215 1/2

US REFINANCING OPERATION

Washington, Jan. 27. The United States Treasury today undertook its largest single refinancing operation in history, seeking to convert 21,000 million dollars (about \$2,500 million) in five outstanding securities into two new issues.

The operation appears to be directed towards refinancing securities due to mature shortly, and bringing a major share of the new borrowing into medium or long term obligations.

The new issues offered are a one-year certificate paying one and five-eighths per cent, and a seven-year and nine-month bond, paying two and one-third per cent interest.—Reuter.

Japan-P.I. Trade Agreement Extended 45 Days

Manila, Jan. 28. The provisional barrier trade agreement between Japan and the Philippines has been extended 45 days. The Japanese Foreign Office announced today.

TRADE AND COMMERCE SECTION

SOUTH KOREANS REBUILDING THEIR COUNTRY

TRADE WITH JAPAN IS INCREASING

With the announcement of the ratification by the U.S. Senate of a mutual defence treaty with South Korea come reports from Seoul telling how the South Koreans are choosing to ignore the uncertainty of the peace and are rebuilding their shattered country.

Japan has increased her exports to South Korea recently and among the goods flowing in are machines, chemicals and wool. Reports also state that Seoul's population is almost back to its pre-war levels and public utilities in the city are slowly coming back into operation.

Hospitals, schools, office buildings and department stores which had housed military units are being returned to civilian owners.

Staunch Supporter Of The P.P.P.

Lahore, Pakistan, Jan. 27. A young bridegroom in Lahore refused to accept his bride while she wore anything of foreign manufacture.

He said he was a supporter of the widely used slogan "Patronised Pakistani Products" and his bride must only have locally made clothes and goods. Nor would he accept foreign-made presents.

After several hours of argument the bride's parents agreed to the demand and she finally departed for her husband's home clad in coarse local clothes.—China Mail Special.

Streets Lit Up

But changes which have been taking place since July emphasize the existence of a case-lit. There is not yet an atmosphere of peace in Korea; but the South Koreans have begun dispersing the atmosphere of war.

In the cities, public utilities are slowly being brought back into operation. Taxis and motorcars, hidden in barns and sheds during the war years, now vie with military traffic for road space. Street cars are being repaired and put into operation. Many main streets in Seoul are now lit up at night. Merchants have begun to work on a peace-time basis.

Fewer Days Lost By Strikes

If it had not been for sporadic small strikes in England in December, last year would have been the least troubled by industrial disputes in British industry since 1941, according to cables from London.

Up to the end of November the number of working days lost was 1,053,000, compared with 1,537,000 in the first 11 months of 1952.

These figures are given in the December issue of the Ministry of Labour Gazette, which shows that the reduction was caused by shorter, but not less numerous, strikes, involving fewer men. During the period, the total number of strikes was 1,624, compared with 1,926 last year.

In both years the most serious loss of time was in mining and vehicle building. There were actually more pit strikes this year—1,217, compared with 1,159—but the number of days lost by them was much less, 333,000, compared with 533,000. There were 45 strikes in the vehicle-building industry in each year, but whereas in 1952 the number of days lost was 469,000, in 1953 the number was 287,000.

In November, 93,000 working days were lost compared with 117,000 in October last year and 122,000 in November 1952.

INCREASE IN WAGES

Wage increases also amounted to less last year than in the past two years. In the first 11 months the estimated total net increase in weekly wages was £2,242,000, shared among 8,200,500 workers. In the corresponding period last year the aggregate increase was £4,921,000 for 11,160,000. Since November the railway men have negotiated their additional 4s. but any further increases which they and the engineers obtain will come into this year's figures.

The index of wage rates for November (June, 1947 = 100) remained unchanged at 137. It has gone up three points since January, whereas the index of retail prices has gone up two points. The price index was 140.5 for November, a rise of one point over the July figure.

Higher prices for transport and other goods were partly offset by a fall in the price of food. The index of food prices was 137.5 for November, a rise of one point over the July figure.

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New York Market Rise Checked

New York, Jan. 27. Profit-taking put a sudden halt to the sweeping rise in the stock market today as industrialists approached a new bull market high—just a shade below their 24-year average peak.

Trading in the initial hour resulted in a 650,000-share turnover—heaviest since Sept. 15. Subsequently volume lightened as prices eased. Sales for the day of 2,020,000 shares, compared with 2,120,000 yesterday.

Many issues held small gains—of 1,188 issues traded, 476 were lower, 396 higher.

Outstanding among the rises was Radio Corporation, responding to announcement of its atomic battery. It again topped the active list with total volume of 78,200 shares, including a 20,000-share opening. It rose 1/4 of a point to \$25 1/2, on top of yesterday's 1 1/2 rise.

Steel's index firm as companies in the industry reported excellent 1953 results. Bethlehem, whose report is due tomorrow, featured with a rise of nearly a point on active trading at one time.

The NY Stock Exchange bond volume was \$4,059,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 530,000 shares.

Dow Jones closing averages were:

30 industrials	282 1/2
20 rails	104 1/2
15 utilities	104 1/2
50 stocks	104 1/2
40 bonds	104 1/2
Comm. futures	104 1/2
index	104 1/2

COMMODITY INDICES

Dow Jones commodity	170.64
price index	180.82
Moody's investor service	417.4
index, 15 commodities	417.4

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange amounted to \$550,248. 30. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
HS Bank	1035	1045	3 @ 1035
HS Bank	1035	1045	40 @ 1040

INSURANCES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
Yong	1042 1/2		

DOCKS, ETC.	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
Wharf	21.80	200 @ 21.40	
Provisions (C)	13.00	250 @ 13.00	
Wheelock	6.10	0 1/2 @ 11.000 @ 8.20	

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"500"
RETRACTABLE BALLPOINT PEN

Page 10 THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK Man Of Talents

IN the town where he lived he was something of a celebrity, and well liked, besides. His name was George, and he was an artist. But he had other talents besides his art, and made himself useful in many ways to his fellow townsmen. Many talents he had, and one weakness, Drink.

One day George was sent to prison for being drunk in charge of his car. When he was freed, he had not the courage to face the town that had known him so well, though his home was still there, and his wife. He sailed to South America to start a new life on his own.

In the Argentine, George became an art master in a school, did well enough, saved his money, and presently invested it in a bar.

HOME AGAIN

THIS, he thought, as he watched the customers coming and going, is the life. The only trouble was that one customer neither came nor went, but remained all the time on the premises—himself. It was not very long before George's bar went out of business.

He was destitute then for a time, and kept by charities until a relative in England sent him fare home. His wife, by now, had divorced him for desertion.

In London, George took a salesman's job. It was humble enough, but in no time he had done so well at it that he was in business again on his own account. Then, using a different name, he returned to his first love and became a freelance commercial artist.

He was still doing that when, the other day, he had an argument, and the course of it produced a gun.

CHECK-UP

IT was not loaded and, indeed, it had only just withdrawn from a safe deposit. Perhaps he had meant to sell the revolver. Instead, he brought it out in an office, the police were called, and next day at Bow Street, George was charged with being in possession of a firearm without a licence.

He was remanded and Mr. Justice Reece, the magistrate, ordered that the dictators should check him during the remand, for George looked grey and ill and nervous.

When he was brought back to the dock, the police sketched in his story for the magistrate. "It makes me think," said Mr. Reece, when he had heard it, "that this man and a revolver don't go well together." He turned to the doctor's report.

THE REPORT SAYS...

"I've seen some of his work as an artist," said the officer in charge of the case, "and it's really exceptionally good. I have some examples, if you would like..."

But the magistrate was still engrossed in the medical report. He looked up from it and said to George, "You're a man of obvious talent, and then through drink, you come to the level where you now stand..."

"I don't drink or smoke," George snapped. His own faith in his reformation and his present virtues welled up in him. He repeated: "I tell you I don't drink."

THE NEW MAN

"I'm an artist, piecework. I there's a man still owes me a little, about £2.10s." Panic put modesty to flight. "I'm an extremely good draughtsman," he said urgently. "I can read blueprints upside-down."

"How much money had he on him?" the magistrate asked the officer.

"Fourteen and three pence halfpenny."

Mr. Reece turned to George again. "I shall discharge you conditionally," he said. "If I were you, I'd have a word with the probation officer before you go. He may be able to give you some advice."

"I'm always ready to listen to advice," George said, with dignity, and he went out, clothed in new confidence, the man of many talents, the reformed character.

Financing War In Indo-China

Washington, Jan. 27. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives today heard Mr. Harold Stassen, Director of the Foreign Operations Administration, report that the United States was paying 85 per cent of the cost of military operations in Indo-China.

The Committee chairman, Mr. Robert Chaperfield (Republican, Illinois), told reporters that Mr. Stassen, at a private meeting, had given the Committee an up-to-date picture of operations of the Foreign Operations Administration.

According to Mr. Chaperfield, Mr. Stassen said that Indo-China was the top priority nation getting his Administration's attention, and that full support was being given to the new French policy of offensive operations.

Mr. Stassen also testified that the \$45,000,000 aid programme directed to Indo-China was "practically used" and was the decisive factor in producing internal stability despite a critical economic situation in recent months.

Mr. Chaperfield also said Mr. Stassen told the Committee that only the South American countries that depended on coffee exports for revenue were in a favourable economic situation. The slump in world prices for tin, Mr. Stassen stated, had created critical conditions in Bolivia.

Mr. Stassen also said that reorganisation and reduction in Foreign Operations Administration personnel would result in a \$15,000,000 saving in administrative costs this year.

He said the Administration's personnel had been cut 22 per cent in Washington, and by 49 per cent in Paris.—Reuter.

Dredgers Cause Nuisance

Ng Wah-jak, 28, master of a fishing junk, was fined \$60 or two weeks' hard labour by Mr. A. G. Parker at the Marine Court this morning when he pleaded guilty to a charge of dredging without permission.

The prosecution said that defendant's craft was among a crowd of sampans dredging yesterday with baskets and long poles off the west yard of Kowloon Dock. A quantity of coal was found on board defendant's junk.

The Superintendent of the Kowloon District Police told the Court this morning that sampans dredging there caused a lot of mud to be thrown up, and that the dredging was a nuisance to the public at that point was blocked by the silt the sampans people had stirred up, interference to navigation in that area had also been caused.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Time Signal and Programme Summary: 6.00 a.m. Time Signal by Robin Day (Studio); 6.30 a.m. Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 6.50 a.m. Morning News (Studio); 7.00 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 7.10 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 7.20 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 7.30 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 7.40 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 7.50 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.00 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.10 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.20 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.30 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.40 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 8.50 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.00 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.10 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.20 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.30 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.40 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 9.50 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.00 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.10 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.20 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.30 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.40 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 10.50 a.m. News Talk (London Relay); 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